



COUNCILS' RATE RISE WARNING

Report by Sue Austin

PARISH councils in the Oswestry area may have to consider increasing their precept in the future as spending cuts begin to bite, it has been claimed.

The warning comes as Shropshire Council agreed to withhold more than £500,000 government funding to town and parish councils.

The move was made by the unitary authority on Thursday last week to ease its own financial woes but several parish and town councils in the county say the move will see them lose out on thousands of pounds. Future financial management came into focus at the latest meeting of Oswestry Rural Parish Council with chairman Robert Milton saying the council was spending more and more money and it may need to start putting the precept on the council tax up.

Speaking at the council meeting on Tuesday last week, Councillor Milton said that currently the council was spending money piecemeal on items, often dipping into its reserves to do so. He said: "We need to have a proper, capital spending programme, perhaps a three-year programme."

"We need to find out what people want, identify capital projects, how much it will cost to provide them and then explain to the public that this money has to come from somewhere."

"We may have to look at the precept on the community charge."

Councillors agreed to set up a sub-committee to look at the parish plan and how it could be translated into capital projects.

The councillors also heard parish councils are being asked to take on responsibility for services previously run by Shropshire Council.

Clerk Val Smout said regular cutting of the parish's green areas for example could cost more than £10,000 a year.

The decision by Shropshire Council on Thursday to withhold the council tax support grant payments to town and parish councils was approved despite criticism from some unitary members.

During the talks Councillor Roger Evans, leader of the Liberal Democrat group, said the decision was "immoral", while several councillors said it was unfair that the parish councils would not get the grants they were expecting.

But Shropshire Council Leader Keith Barrow, who said the authority was in the second year of a three-year saving plan, warned: "If we think times are hard now there is more pain to come."

"We had to find about £87 million of savings, now there is another £80 million to find."

"We have heard nothing constructive, no alternative budget - nothing but sniping."

"The biggest parish council precept on the council tax is £20, that is 6p a week."



Councillor Keith Barrow

Mayor's shop call prompts quick action

CALLS by Oswestry's mayor for improvements to empty town centre shops have brought about a quick response.

Mayor John Gareth Jones wrote to agents working to let properties in Cross Street. The mayor said the empty properties were an "embarrassment" to the town.

Agents have since told him improvements will be carried out on the shops. And he has been told that there is "significant interest" in two of the properties on the street which have been empty for some time.

Councillor Jones said: "It is clear that this direct approach has triggered some positive response and certainly we have some answers to questions that we have been asking for a long time."

"I will continue to pursue the matter on behalf of the town council as we recognise that this is a significant issue in helping to revitalise the town centre and attract new businesses."

"As a town council we have no legal powers in terms of empty properties or rates but I felt that someone had to do something and the initial reactions are greatly encouraging."

● Empty - See Page 2

Cash boost delight for football club

WELSHPOOL Town Football Club has won a grant of almost £25,000 from the Welsh Football Association to make improvements to its ground.

Club officials said they are delighted with the grant, which will be used to transform the ground at Maesdyr.

And they said that without the £20,000 legacy left by late president Tegwyn Evans the club would never have been able to apply for the matched funding.

The grant was revealed at Welshpool Town Council's latest meeting by councillor and life vice president of the Welsh FA Phil Pritchard.

The work will include renewal of the stand roof, provision of disabled access and provision of railings for standing at the back of the stand.

Plans are also in the pipeline to refurbish the toilets and add a disabled toilet, change the light bulbs on the floodlights and add in security lighting and anti-social behaviour systems.

Councillor Pritchard praised the town council for its support for the improvement work.

Work will start in May and end in August before the new season.

Evie-Lou shows real girl power



Evie-Lou Harrington took part in a sponsored walk on Saturday in support of a fundraising appeal for her big sister Emilie

Appeal is boosted

A **BRAVE** seven-year-old girl raised an incredible £3,000 during an emotional fundraising challenge for her sister.

Just two years ago Evie-Lou Harrington, who suffers from cerebral palsy, was unable to walk and needed to use a wheelchair to get around.

Thanks to a life-changing operation in America the youngster from Llangynog is now able to get around using a special frame.

Her nine-year-old sister Emilie is now looking to undergo the same operation and as part of the fundraising effort Evie-Lou signed up to a sponsored walk at Lake Vyrnwy's dam on Saturday.

She was joined by around 35 other people for the walk and thanks to huge support from the community Evie-Lou raised more than £3,000.

Evie-Lou's mum, Donna Harrington, said the family was "incredibly proud" of her daughter's efforts.

"Everyone was cheering her on as she got to the finish, and there was just a wonderful smile on her face," she said. Mrs Harrington said that Evie-Lou's operation has made a huge difference to her life in alleviating the symptoms of her illness and that the same procedure will prevent her older sister from getting worse.

● Brave - See Page 31

CRIME

Demands made for a crackdown on town's yobs

CALLS have been made for the police to launch a crackdown on anti-social behaviour in Welshpool after figures revealed it accounts for more than one in three crimes in the town.

Dyfed-Powys Police said it attended 100 crimes in the town in November and December last year, with 35 of those classed as anti-social behaviour incidents.

Now Councillor John Corfield has called on the force to do more to tackle boy racers and louts in the town centre.

He said: "We met with Christopher Salmon the police and crime commissioner just a few months ago and he vowed to do all he can to tackle the problem in the town centre."

"Well I say the proof is in the pudding and he hasn't lived up to that yet. If more than one in three crimes in the town is related to anti-social behaviour then he needs to do more to tackle it."

"Boy racers are a long standing problem, especially in the Berriew Street car park and for years they have been using the car park and the town as a racetrack."

Mr Salmon said he is working hard to reduce anti-social behaviour in the town.

He said: "I want to keep communities safe against problems that blight people's lives. I'm focused on improving behaviour and tackling causes of antisocial behaviour." He added that he had appointed two housing support specialists to tackle the problem in towns across the region.

ENTERTAINMENT

Town's festival ready to kick off

FINAL preparations are being completed for this year's Oswestry Literary Festival which kicks off next week.

Among the stars taking part are TV couple Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Speaking ahead of her appearance at the Wynnstay Hotel on Friday next week Judy said she was looking forward to taking part in the festival. Other big names include former political spin doctor Alastair Campbell, Frank Cottrell Boyce, Dame Stephanie Shirley and top crime novelist Sophie Hannah. Tickets are available at www.oswestrylifest.co.uk

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INSIDE

Hospice launches cash challenge



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PICTURE PREVIEW



Oswestry has a brand new livestock market. Turn to Page 6 to find out more

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Empty town centre shops to be improved say agents

Report by Sue Austin

EMPTY shops blighting an Oswestry town centre street will be repaired and tidied up in a bid to make them more appealing to prospective new tenants.

Agents working to let retail properties in Cross Street say work will be carried out on buildings after the Mayor John Gareth Jones wrote to the companies involved.

"I highlighted the concerns and complaints that have been addressed to the town council recently about the condition of several of the empty retail properties," he said. "The letter asked for advice on the progress on the letting of these properties and also asked as a matter of urgency that their clients address the failing conditions of the buildings," Councillor Jones said.

Since then the mayor has received responses from two agents, one acting for the former B-Wise shop, the other for two adjoining properties in Cross Street.

He said the latter confirmed "significant interest" in two of the properties and promised that some money would be spent tidying up the exterior and replacing an existing shop front.

Asset managers working on behalf of the landlord of the B-Wise property said they are currently actively taking steps to bring the building back into habitable condition.

"They have stressed that this will take time, recognising the problems of a building that has fallen into disrepair and which has had pigeons roosting in it for some time," Councillor Jones said.

"The roof has been fixed, the pigeons removed, and a structural surveyor has inspected and reported that the structure of the building is sound.

"I have been told that the aim is to get the building back into use as soon as possible but this is clearly a big job due to the current state of disrepair. The new owner has asked to speak with me to discuss the renovation of the property and issues in general." He added: "I am really encouraged by the responses that we have received.

"It is clear that this direct approach has triggered some positive response and certainly we have some answers to questions that we have been asking for a long time."

The council has made the town centre and its viability a core area in its recently adopted corporate plan.

Hospice sets out a sporting challenge



Louise Corfield, Andy Goldsmith and Lynsey Kilvert from Hope House launch the summer sports challenge

HOPE House Children's Hospice is looking for energetic people to sign up for a series of sporty fundraising events this summer.

The Oswestry-based charity is backing a range of events from 10kms and half marathons to triathlons which can be entered individually or as a group.

First out of blocks is the Chester half marathon on May 17, which will be followed by the Shrewsbury half marathon, Chirk Castle half marathon, North Wales half marathon, Shrewsbury sprint triathlon, Lake Vyrnwy half marathon, Farndon 10K and Conwy half marathon.

Each challenge has a sign-up cost of between £20 and £25, and participants have

to commit to raise a minimum of £100 for each event entered.

Lynsey Kilvert, area fundraiser for Hope House, said: "For anyone signing up, they have to pay us the registration fee and commit to raising £100 in sponsorship. In return they will receive our free limited edition running vest and we will be there on the day to cheer them on.

"If our supporters have already registered for these events or wish to register for an event that isn't part of the Hope House Sporting Challenges they can register to commit to raise a min of £100 in sponsorship for Hope House and still receive a free limited edition Hope House running vest.

"If any of our supporters want to take part in other sporting challenges, they can sign up direct with the event organisers, commit to raising £100 for us and receive a free limited edition running vest."

To sign up contact the fundraising office on (01691) 671671 or by visiting www.hope-house.org.uk/whats-on

Meanwhile, children at St Martins School will be showing off their talents when they stage a variety concert in aid of Hope House. The event will be held on Tuesday next week from 7pm to 9.30pm. Admission costs £2 for children and £4 for adults and a family ticket for two adults and two children can be bought for £10.



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Railway bid is on the right track

OSWESTRY'S heritage railway is ready to take the next step towards restoring an eight-mile stretch of track.

Cambrian Heritage Railways (CHR) is ready to submit an application to the Department for Transport for an order under the Transport and Works Act 1992 for the branch line between Gobowen and Blodwel.

The branch line is currently leased to CHR by Shropshire Council, with two sections already running trains over a few hundred metres at Oswestry Station and for a mile between Llyncllys and Pant.

Roger Date, trustee of CHR, said: "The purpose of the proposed order is to authorise the transfer to us from Network Rail Infrastructure Limited of the statutory powers and obligations that relate to the railway."

"The order is limited to the transfer of those existing statutory powers and obligations already relating to the railway, and will not authorise any new works on the branch line or allow CHR to compulsorily acquire any land. It remains our intention to seek further authorisation for works and crossings in the future as and when funding becomes available."

CHR will be holding a drop-in session today (Thursday) at Oswestry Station between noon and 8pm where the draft order will be available to read.

Restaurant due to open up again

A RESTAURANT which has been closed for four months following a fire should reopen in time for Easter.

Repairs to Brooks Around The Corner in Oswestry, were delayed after asbestos was discovered in the building following the fire in November. But workmen have now moved in to remove the asbestos, meaning the final stage of repairing the restaurant can begin.

Owner Lisa Newton she is now starting to look for new staff ahead of the reopening, expected to be next month. "While most of our staff have stayed with us we do have a few job vacancies available," she said. "We have vacancies for a kitchen assistant, pot washer and front of house staff, and interviews will take place in the first week of April."

The fire took place in November and is believed to have started in a tumble drier in the basement.

Singing sessions launched in town

A FILM-MAKING company is encouraging people to stretch their vocal chords with a new series of singing sessions for all ages.

The Oswestry Project has launched Oswestry Encore to teach students the fundamental basics of singing before performing some contemporary, modern and popular music.

Gareth Thomas, group spokesman, said: "We believe that our students

will have far more fun, and in turn learn so much more, from taking the necessary basics and implementing them into music which they already know and love but with the possibility to even learn some new material at the same time.

"We are keen to stress that Oswestry Encore will be kept entirely separate from the film making aspects of The Oswestry Project. This is so

that people who just want to learn to sing do not have to worry about cameras or anything else which they might not be comfortable with.

"However, for those that do show an interest or a talent for getting involved with the film making side, then some of the cast and crew for Run For Your Life will be making appearances from time to time to show how any of them could become a part of Oswestry's

very own feature film. The Oswestry Project is, of course, still working towards the local feature film we are all working very hard on but we felt it was important to give something back to the community." Singing sessions will be running for 10 weeks in the Oswestry Memorial Hall from 7pm to 8pm and will start tomorrow (Friday).

Contact 07528 589659 or e-mail en-core@theoswestryproject.co.uk

TV star Judy is looking forward to big festival

Report by Pam Kingsley

AUTHOR and TV presenter Judy Finnigan says she is looking forward to coming to Oswestry for the launch event of the town's Litfest extravaganza.

Judy and husband Richard Madeley will be heading to Oswestry on Friday next week.

The couple will kick off the festival as Richard interviews Judy about her new novel, *I Do Not Sleep*, at The Wynnstay Hotel.

Speaking to the Oswestry and Border Chronicle ahead of her appearance Judy said: "I've never been to Oswestry but Richard's family is from Shropshire, from Shawbury. We have a big family reunion there every year."

Just a handful of tickets remain for the evening with Richard and Judy, and these are expected to sell out by the end of the week.

"That's great news, I'm really looking forward to it," Judy said. "I think literary festivals are lovely."

"When my first novel *Eloise* was published we started going to literary festivals and it was a new world for me and astonishing. You feel you meet people there that you never usually meet. Those people are part of a very gentle world and people are very nice - which they're often not in television."

The sixth Oswestry Literary Festival takes place from March 13 to March 27. Other big names include former political spin doctor Alastair Campbell, Frank Cottrell Boyce, Dame Stephanie Shirley and top crime novelist Sophie Hannah.

Tickets for all the LitFest events can be bought online at www.oswestrylitfest.co.uk



Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley are taking part in this year's Oswestry Literary Festival

NEWS IN BRIEF

Heart screening days organised

A COUPLE from St Martins near Oswestry have organised a series of heart screening days in memory of their son.

St Martins couple Sue and Chris Dewhirst have organised the events in memory of their 17-year-old son Matthew who died in 2012 from an undiagnosed heart condition.

Mrs Dewhirst said: "We have five days of screening booked for 2015 starting with two days at Nesscliffe Village Hall on May 2 and May 3."

"Appointments are available at www.testmyheart.org. To pay for future screening days, which cost £3,500 per day, we fundraise around the county and are holding a golf day at Mile End Golf Club on April 17."

"We are also holding a great event at Goldstone Hall Hotel on May 18 with the celebrity hairdressers Royston Blythe and Nick Malenko, who opened their Shrewsbury salon in 2013."

For more details contact cry-for-matthew.org.uk

Meeting hears of speed sign need

A VILLAGE near Oswestry which takes the brunt of traffic diversions when the A5 is closed desperately needs a speed activation sign to slow drivers down, a meeting has heard.

Councillor Sue Chalk told Oswestry Rural Parish Council that residents could not understand why other villages had signs installed but Maesbury did not have one.

A sign would cost between £2,000 and £3,000.

"We have a long straight stretch of road that drivers speed on."

"When the A5 is closed, as it often is, all the traffic is diverted through the village," Councillor Chalk said.

Council chairman Councillor Robert Milton said that a vehicle activation sign could move around the villages of Maesbury, Trefonen, Morda and Rhydyceosau.

Councillors agreed to investigate the costs of a sign.

Crews attend blaze

A HOUSE suffered smoke damage in a fire.

Firefighters from Welshpool and Llanfyllin dealt with the incident which broke out at the end of a terrace property in Llanymynech just after 1pm on Monday.

The fire was confined to the living room which suffered smoke damage.

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School cuts will avoid big deficits council bosses say

Report by Dominic Robertson

PLANS to close a number of Mid Wales secondary schools are essential to prevent the build up of multi-million pound deficits, according council bosses.

Powys County Council announced earlier this year that it is looking to close a "sufficient number of high schools", thought to be three, as part of cost cutting measures.

Councillor Arwel Jones, cabinet member for schools, said: "Currently we have too few children spread across a number of schools which affects the range of the curriculum that can be offered on any one site. This is not the best use of resources and risks putting our young people at an educational disadvantage when schools in other counties are able to provide a wider selection of courses in better facilities.

Councillors reiterate pylons view

SHROPSHIRE Council has reiterated its opposition to plans for a high voltage power line between Cefn Coch near Llanfair Caereinion and Lower Frankton near Oswestry.

A motion was presented to a meeting of the authority on Thursday last week by Councillor Arthur Walpole calling for all members to object to the overhead power line being planned to connect proposed windfarms in Mid Wales to the existing power grid.

Councillor Walpole, who represents Llanymynech, said: "The proposed overhead power line will have a detrimental impact in Shropshire with no perceived beneficial gain for Shropshire communities and will adversely affect our local communities our environment and our tourist economy.

"The construction phase including the impact of the construction traffic on our local roads and communities would have a detrimental effect on the quality of life and on property. This will leave a permanent legacy affecting our green and pleasant land."

Council leader Keith Barrow, said: "This is already affecting people in Shropshire. Many are struggling to sell their homes which are blighted by the plans."

Councillors agreed to object to the pylon line. National Grid has carried out a series of consultation on the plans.

The firm says it has a legal duty to provide a connection for the windfarms as soon as they start generating electricity should they go ahead.

"It is also in everyone's interest that the council's focus is on driving up the attainment and ambition of the majority of its pupils with a special emphasis on those from more disadvantaged backgrounds.

"We know that many schools have already taken difficult decisions in the face of these pressures, but much more is needed, the current secondary structure is no longer viable. Without action 75 per cent of schools will be in deficit by 2017 to the sum of £5 million. The scale of the problem has the potential to undermine the stability of secondary education in Powys and compromise the council's entire budget."

The next step in the process will see the council's cabinet decide which areas of the proposals can be carried out immediately and which will require detailed examination. Councillor Jones also pledged that in locations where schools are to close communities will be fully consulted.

He said: "On March 24 the cabinet will be asked to accept the key principles that will drive the process, the overall goals we set ourselves as an education authority now and for the future. Cabinet will also be asked to prioritise the roll-out of the Secondary Reorganisation Programme by agreeing areas for immediate action and areas where further detailed business cases are required."

Meanwhile it has been announced more than £1 million will be spent on schools in Mid Wales over the next year as part of a major improvement plan.

The settlement, which will see £1 million allocated to improving school buildings during 2015/16 plus an additional £188,849 underspent from the current financial year, was agreed at a meeting of Powys County Council's cabinet on Tuesday. A further £1 million will also be spent in each of the following two years.

Incubator scheme launched



The High Sheriff of Shropshire Robert Bland with Samantha and Simon Harris

A "BUSINESS incubator" to help young entrepreneurs to set up their own companies got off to an encouraging start at its launch event.

The initiative was launched at Walford & North Shropshire College's Oswestry campus led by students at the college and attended by up to 80 guests.

Sarah Probert, the college's business curriculum leader, said she was delighted with how successful the event on Friday last week had been.

She said: "We've had good feedback from the business community on what was done, and we had so many people we had to get extra chairs out - we were only expecting about 25 people.

"There was lots of praise for the students who led the event.

"The guests were all very positive and we've now got businesses who are willing to support us who we can work with."

The High Sheriff of Shropshire Robert Bland spoke at the event and among the people he met were Samantha and Simon Harris of Imagination Creation Creative Solutions.

Members of new Oswestry Cambrian Rotary Club took part in the event.

Participation in the scheme was part of a new initiative from the club called Rotary in Business and aims to be a link between the college's young students and local businesses.

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Parents left reeling after joint inquest court move

Report by Sue Austin

THE parents of a teenage soldier who was found dead at an army training barracks say suggestions that a new inquest should be adjourned again are "ridiculous."

Des and Doreen James from Llanymynech have fought for almost 20 years for their daughter's death to be fully investigated.

Now, so close to the opening of a new inquest, they have been left reeling after a pre-inquest hearing was left in limbo last week.

Private Cheryl James was just 18 when she died from a gunshot wound to the head in November 1995.

Sleep out fundraiser to be staged

FIFTY people will spend the night in a "cardboard village" in a bid to raise funds for a charity in Oswestry.

The Oswestry Open House charity event will take place tomorrow (Friday) at the Park Hall Showground to raise funds for regular lunch clubs and a cafe for people needing companionship in and around the town. Weather forecasters say temperatures should rise a little by the weekend and that tomorrow night should stay dry.

The event will begin with a hot meal and an auction at the new Spring Lamb venue at the livestock market in Shrewsbury Road, before the team moves to the showground with their sleeping bags and materials to build their homes for the night.

Getting the hardy souls ready for their night dealing with the elements will be personal trainers from the Coach House at the Wynnstay who have volunteered to lead a warm-up on the showground.

The aim is not only to highlight the problem of homeless people but also to raise funds for quarterly Open House lunch clubs following the success of the Christmas Day event in the town.

Dozens of people who wanted company for Christmas attended the lunch at The Centre in Oak Street with volunteers giving up their time to serve their guests a traditional lunch.

Anyone interested in going along can contact Gemma Cassin on 07539 062297, e-mail: oswestryopenhouse@gmail.com or look on the Open House Facebook page.

An inquest at the time recorded an open verdict.

The teenage soldier was one of four soldiers who died at the Deepcut barracks in Surrey between 1995 and 2002.

Mr and Mrs James were delighted when their campaign for justice with the backing of human rights advocate Liberty led to a ruling that a new inquest should be held into the circumstances of their daughter's death.

The campaigning couple said they believed the new inquest allowed them to see a light at the end of the tunnel.

However, at a hearing at the Royal Courts of Justice on Friday last week, Surrey Police said that Judge Brian Barker QC, who is leading the fresh inquest, "might like to consider" adjourning so that inquests into all four soldiers be held at the same time.

Mr James, who was in London for the hearing, said the suggestion had come out of the blue.

"In reality that could hold up the inquest into Cheryl's death for years, it is just ridiculous," he said.

"The families of the other young soldiers have only just asked for disclosure."

"It took us 10 years to get permission from the High Court for disclosure and a further three to get 75 per cent of the evidence from Surrey Police."

"We also feel the inquests should not be lumped together, that our children deserve the dignity of their deaths being individually investigated."

"After all, they died over a six-and-a-half-year period."

Judge Barker did not make a ruling on the suggestion but instead adjourned for a month for a date to be fixed.

Besides Cheryl James, Surrey Police also investigated the deaths of Sean Benton, 20, Geoff Gray, 17, and James Collinson, 17, who all died in suspicious circumstances from gunshot wounds between June 1995 and March 2002 while they were at Deepcut barracks.



Des James with a picture of his daughter Cheryl James

Festival is huge success

ALMOST 1,000 young singers and musicians showcased their talents at this year's Oswestry Youth Music Festival.

The hugely popular festival saw youngsters take part in four days of competition culminating in Sunday's winners concert at Christchurch.

Organisers said this year saw a 20 per cent increase in the number of young people taking part in the annual event, which is run in conjunction with Oswestry Town Council.

Individuals and groups travelled from across Shropshire, Cheshire and mid and north Wales to compete in classes for all type of musical instruments and voices, from solos to ensembles, duets, choirs and orchestras.

Sue Turner, who leads a large group of volunteers and councillors who ensure the festival runs smoothly, said this year's event was a tremendous success.

She said: "We have had a 10 per cent increase in entries this year which means almost 1,000 young people are competing."

"Many youth music festivals have folded recently, including those that used to be held in Liverpool and Blackpool and we are delighted that Oswestry's festival is going from strength to strength."

"The competitions including Sunday's finale concert are open to the public and are all free."

"The wealth of talent at this festival is quite incredible and we are lucky in Oswestry to be able to enjoy the event."

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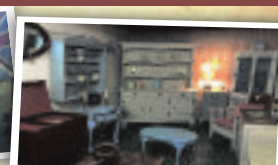
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BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

If ever there was a time for a town to get fully behind its mayor it's now.

Oswestry Mayor Councillor Gareth Jones is surely spot-on with his campaign to improve the look of empty shops in Cross Street. They give the town such a poor image. The mayor has been inundated by complaints about the eyesore in the town centre, which offers a shameful impression of the state of retailing in Oswestry. And now he's determined to do something about it.

Councillor Jones wants Mason Owen, the agents selling the stores which were once home to a men's fashion shop and a card outlet, to take responsibility for their appearance. He has described the empty shops as "an embarrassment to Oswestry." The empty stores do not reflect the town's current economic position. Several new ones have opened in the last 12 months and the chamber of commerce reports a fairly buoyant trading situation. So let's give the mayor our backing and tell the selling agents just what we think about the state of our town centre.

Write to them: Mason Owen, Gladstone House, Union Court, Liverpool, L2 4UQ.

My letter has already gone.

....
It was great while it lasted but petrol prices across the region seem to be on the increase again.

And there I was getting ready to applaud the arrival of the £1 litre. Prices which dropped as low as 104.9p per litre in Welsphool are slowly creeping back up and the AA now reports that the average price of a litre of petrol in Mid Wales and Shropshire has now reached 108.28p while diesel has averaged out at 115.096p.

It's still good news though because at its peak fuel was 13p a litre more expensive. Happy motoring all.

....
I'm becoming increasingly aware of the economic importance to the Oswestry and Welsphool areas of the restoration of the canal system.

I took a stroll along the Montgomery Canal this week and couldn't help but be impressed by not only the work that has gone on to make towpaths more accessible for walkers but by the general upkeep of the network by volunteers. There's no mistaking the importance of connecting the canal network between Mid Wales and Llangollen. The canal is already a huge tourist attraction, bringing thousands of people to the area.

Imagine the impact if the Llangollen-Newtown route was passable again. I hear there's a General Election in the offing. How popular would an announcement that the project was to be fully funded be?

Graham Breeze



The new livestock market in Oswestry offers all the latest facilities for today's farming industry



Oswestry Livestock Auctions' John Brereton is delighted with the refurbishment



Farming bosses say the new livestock market will serve the area for many years to come

New livestock market is impressing area's farmers

Oswestry's new livestock market is now operating. DOMINIC ROBERTSON went for a look around

FARMERS have hailed the redevelopment of Oswestry's livestock market as a big improvement for the future of the site.

The refurbishment is nearly complete and the Smithfield Livestock Market on Shrewsbury Road hosted its third sale for store cattle in the new section on Wednesday last week.

The development has included building a brand new store cattle sale ring and pens under cover, installing modern handling facilities for beef cull cow sections, covering the lamb section, building a large cleaning and disinfectant facility, a new calf shed, car park, and converting the old office into a modern canteen.

Mervyn Parry of Oswestry has been using the livestock market in the town for 60 years and said he was impressed with the new facilities.

Community

He said: "The sheep will be covered over which will be a big improvement, I think it will work grand for them. People will use it, it is right in the middle of the farming community, it always has been used and always will be.

"It was needed, it is one of the finest sheep markets and I hope we can keep it up.

"I can remember the old market well. "That was right in the middle of the town, I can remember them selling sheep on Festival Square at 5pm at night."

Ieuan Evans, originally from Meifod in Mid Wales, who farms sheep, said



Oswestry livestock market plays a key role in the region's farming industry

the new facilities will be good news for farmers.

He said: "The biggest help here is covering the sheep section, that will be a big difference.

"It needed to change for the amount of stock that was coming through here.

"It was a waste."

John Brereton, partner at Oswestry Livestock Auctions, said they had been happy at the response from those using the market.

He said: "We are very pleased at how it is working out.

"We are currently putting the shed over the lamb yard and hope to have that finished in the next three weeks.

"We are delighted we have been able to do this refurbishment with the support of Oswestry Town Council, they have always been very supportive of the livestock market here and have been

excellent landlords. It is a quiet time of year now, farmers are busy lambing, but we hope that all the work is completed by the summer and we will have a modern and efficient livestock market for farmers and purchasers going forward."

He added: "So far it has been great.

"It has gone better than we could have hoped.

"It is a very compact design so it keeps its friendly atmosphere which is what we were hoping to achieve.

"We are very lucky, we have a lot of support from our farmers and purchasers all over the country, we are fortunate to have that support and we hope that these improved facilities will cater for their needs and secure the future of the market in Oswestry for many years."

The building of the new livestock

market is the first phase of a larger £45 million redevelopment of the land off Shrewsbury Road.

Phase two of the redevelopment will see the building of a five screen Cineworld cinema, a Morrisons supermarket and Frankie and Bennys and McDonald's restaurants.

Roy Jones, chairman of the Oswestry Cattle Auctions, said he was excited to see the work developing, particularly because the new market will rival anything in Europe.

He said: "The old livestock market was built almost 50 years ago in 1967 and I hope these new facilities will take us forward another 50 years.

Development

"This is the biggest development for Oswestry in a long time.

"It will bring people to the town.

"For me the cinema is the best part of phase two because people have to travel out of Oswestry for the cinema at the moment.

"The old livestock market moved from Oswestry town centre to the Shrewsbury Road in 1967 and at the time the facilities were state-of-the-art.

"I well remember as a child when the market was right in the middle of the town centre.

"But the opening was delayed by the outbreak of foot-and-mouth which closed everything down.

"It wasn't until 1969 that the market could start serving the farmers.

"It served Oswestry and the surrounding area well. But it had outlived its lifespan and we were in need of a new livestock market."

The scheme to build a new market was first mooted to Oswestry Town Council 15 years ago.

Now it has arrived Mr Jones said he hoped it would take the agricultural community well into this century.

"The old market lasted us for 50 years and I hope this one will do the same," he said.

WORKING FOR YOU



The most wonderful gift that any of us can ever make is the donation of a part of our own bodies to a fellow human being who would otherwise die.

Usually, this is a gift our next of kin agrees to, knowing our wishes, in the unfortunate event of our death.

Less dramatically, but equally wonderful can be the donation of an organ that we can live without (usually a kidney) which allows someone else to live.

Many people donate a kidney to a loved one, but sometimes altruistically to an unknown person. Some people are truly amazing. Over recent years there has been a drive by Government to increase the number of donations. Gordon Brown, when he was Prime Minister established an Organ Donation Taskforce to recommend the best way forward.

The Taskforce spent two years studying the issue and reported in 2008. There were 14 recommendations, all now implemented. It did not recommend a move to 'presumed consent' where organs would be taken unless there were written evidence making clear the deceased person did not agree. Evidence informed it would not increase the number of organs. I agree.

But the Welsh Government has gone down this route. In England, the new approach, without 'presumed consent' has been a spectacular success, increasing the number of donated organs by 63 per cent. Key to success in England has been the support of donors, their families, doctors and nurses ensuring the gift of life growing out of tragic death. There have been crucial policy changes. There's been a big increase in number of SNODS (Specialist Nurses in Organ Donation). Every hospital has a 'clinical lead' heading up a dedicated organ retrieval team.

Increasingly, donation is being normalised as part of end-of-life care. But despite this success, there are still 7,000 patients on the waiting list and 1,300 die or become too sick each year while waiting.

This week I am sponsoring an exhibition of the work on Transplant 2020 in Parliament. This is a Government initiative to build on the success of the last six years. The main aim of the campaign is to reduce the refusal rate by next of kin.

The only sensible policy objective must be that every next of kin is asked to agree to donation. Every request should be made by a trained SNOD. The whole campaign should be backed up by ongoing "Tell Your Family" promotions. I have been a big supporter of organ donation for many years. It's gone well but much more needs to be done.

Glyn Davies
Montgomeryshire MP

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CAN WE GET A COPY OF OUR GREAT AUNT'S WILL AND CHALLENGE IT?

Q: My great aunt told my sister and I that we would get everything when she died. However it now transpires that she left her entire estate to someone who we feel had been manipulating her for some time. We are concerned that she may not have known what she was doing when she made her Will, which is currently going through probate. Is there any way we can obtain a copy of the Will and challenge it?

A: Once a Will is proved at the Probate Registry and a Grant of Probate is issued allowing the Executors to carry out the deceased's wishes, both Grant and Will are public documents and you may apply to the Probate Registry for copies. These documents will show the value of the Estate, to whom it has been left, the identity of the Executors and which Solicitors (if any) obtained the Probate.

If you think your aunt may have lacked capacity or been unduly influenced to make the Will, you will need to inform the Executors and also ascertain who drew up the Will. When you know who drew up the Will you should ask them why was the Will drafted as it was; how they came to take instructions; whether they were aware of any medical history or signs at the time that may have affected your aunt's mental capacity? You should also ask who was present when she gave her instructions and executed the Will. If you can access copies of previous Wills that indicate completely different wishes you can ask what signs indicated she fully understood the nature and extent of the terms contained within her last Will.

To challenge a Will in Court you have only six months from the date Probate is granted, so you should take advice from Solicitors as soon as possible.

Further information relating to this question is available from Victoria Wilson, a Senior Solicitor with GHP Legal.

For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194, visit www.ghplegal.com.
For Personal Injury and Family matters we offer a FREE legal diagnostic clinic every Wednesday 12-3pm (no appointment necessary). GHP Legal holds the Law Society Lexcel Quality Mark Accreditation



Tickets ruined shopping experience

THE media is always saying how we need to support the high street. A television campaign announced December 6 as being support your local high street day.

On Sunday, December 28 myself and my family planned to visit Shrewsbury town centre to see if we could find any bargains.

First we stopped at Meole Brace retail park for some items we needed. Unfortunately when we headed back to the car, the car park was completely congested with cars queuing to get on and off the site. Therefore we decided to visit the other stores on the retail park, rather than having to sit in a queue and did some more shopping.

While queuing in a shop I struck up a conversation with the person in front of me. Like myself they had decided to carry on shopping due to the chaos in the car park. After I secured my purchase I returned to the car and as the queues were a lot shorter now we decided to leave.

It was at this point I discovered I had a parking ticket. I pointed out to another person returning to their car they also had a ticket. Like myself they were shocked. We then approached a couple of car park attendants, who explained that the reason for the ticket was due to the fact it was a match day. I had not been aware it was a

match day as I do not follow football. The other lady was also unaware of the match. While we were discussing the tickets another couple approached and again they were surprised at getting a ticket.

They, like the first lady I had spoken to, were upset that they had spent a large amount of money at the retail park and that they had been unaware of the match day and that tickets would be enforced, especially as it was Christmas and people would be sale shopping. Also, I never did make it into Shrewsbury town centre.

CHRISTINE OWEN
Welshpool

Some joined-up thinking vital when looking at NHS services

I STARTED work with the NHS in 1976 which was just after the Community Health and Ambulance Services were taken over from the local authorities.

There was an immediate need then to focus on integration and budgetary control and it was evident that there was potential for savings.

One specific area I recall was the amount of money which was swallowed in payment for agency staff. So, nearly 40 years later it is interesting to see this is still an issue.

The NHS by its very nature will always be labour intensive and, therefore, costly but unnecessarily costly if resources are not managed properly.

I moved to Shropshire long before Telford & Wrekin Council thought it ought to have its own district general hospital, but when those plans emerged it seemed sensible that the facilities complemented each other and were essentially not working in competition.

However, latterly in the interests of saving money and due to financial constraints imposed by the Government we have begun to see a lottery of where services will be sited. And now, just when we have a hiatus about care provision in Shropshire, comes the idea of throwing more money to develop a super hospital.

It is clear that no one has a clear plan or understanding of what is needed or even how to achieve. But it does seem absurd that when the services are apparently not delivering along come property developers who promptly dump several thousand houses in the locality, which will inevitably add to the strain on over-stretched resources.

It puzzles me that with all the money being generated by these housing developments why there is not a requirement for money from these sources to be ploughed into local services. Let's have a bit of joined-up thinking when these development plans are put on the table.

CHRIS BROWN
Westbury

Rejoice in how we all were created

THE end spoken of in the Bible is the fulfilment of the purpose of God.

It is not the end of life but the end of human rule.

People have had long opportunity but have proved increasingly incapable of running the world reasonably.

The world is filled with violence, corruption and distress and needs the intervention that the Bible explains.

Compared with the word of God, the theory of evolution is a very recent invention.

It does not explain how we got here. The idea is that all forms of life developed gradually. That infinite gradation is missing in living and fossil form. Darwin found this a problem.

Our wonderful creation speaks of design and purpose. We can learn about that if we want to and rejoice in hope of its fulfilment.

PETER KEEN
Oswestry

Children enjoy life on the quiet streets



Children line up in the street outside Llanymynech post office many years ago. This is an old Wilding's postcard, from the collection of Ray Farlow of Bridgnorth, and will probably be from the Edwardian period. One thing is for sure – Llanymynech's children wouldn't be allowed to stand in the street like this now.

Gas drilling bid sparks question on independence

NEXT time you hear a Conservative councillor claiming to be independent then remember one word – Dudleston.

This time all the Tory councillors said they agreed with the protestors that drilling for gas would decimate the local environment. Watched by over 100 residents the councillors met as a committee before Christmas and agreed they wanted to turn the application down.

All those hundreds of objections, promises, and pledges came to nothing. Time run out and the applicants Dart can now appeal to the Secretary of State and we know what his views on fracking are.

Let me remind you that Cameron is "all out for shale" and Paterson "welcomes" fracking to Shropshire.

And what about Labour or the Lib Dems? Well ask their MPs who have just supported the Government to amend trespass laws to allow yet more fracking.

DUNCAN KERR
Green Party
Parliamentary Candidate
for North Shropshire

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Readers' Letters,
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chronicle.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Act now to save your pass

I'm writing to invite readers to support the 'Love the Bus Pass' petition.

The campaign aims to get all parties to pledge before the General Election that, if elected to power on May 7, they will retain the England concessionary bus pass for older and disabled people as an adequately-funded England-wide statutory universal entitlement free at the point of use.

Readers may request petition forms by e-mail richardvorrall@yahoo.com

RICHARD VORRALL
Love the Bus Pass Campaign

European arrest warrant policy is undemocratic

HISTORIAN Dr David Starkey reveals how the Magna Carta was devised to check the abuses of King John, how it has been the basis for many democracies around the world.

He tells us how it has lasted for 800 years, but fails to tell us that then the European Union ran a coach and horses through it with the infamous European Arrest Warrant.

This European policy is devoid of democracy, does not recognise innocent until proven guilty or trial by jury.

It assumes that 28 EU member nations have equal standards of justice which is quite obviously wrong. Why are we allowing it to breach our country's justice system like that?

For the same reason we are still paying £50 million plus every single day to a failed, fraud-ridden nonsense that has not bothered to produce acceptable accounts now for 20 years – the reason being that we are the most stupid nation in the EU.

BOB WYDELL
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Venue to stage Fair Trade talk

A TALK on Fair Trade is to be staged by Oswestry Equality Group in support of Fair Trade Fortnight.

The talk will be by Judith Haslam, a long standing member of Oswestry and District Fair Trade Group.

It will be held this evening (Thursday) at 7.30pm in St Oswald's Church Parish Rooms.

Admission to the event will be £1 on the door to cover hall hire and refreshments.

Penny Rice, speaking Oswestry Equality Group, said: "We all think of Fair Trade as being about bananas and coffee.

"However Judith will be telling us so much more about Fair Trade, its history and how it affects the lives of people in other countries.

"However Fair Trade is also important in this country; with, for example, the appalling prices that dairy farmers are being paid for their milk.

"We will have a selection of Fair Trade products for sale as well.

"So please come along and find out more."

Dozens take part in film workshop

MORE than 70 children took part in a Frozen-themed workshop.

The youngsters and their parents enjoyed arts, crafts, singing and dancing based on the Disney film and organised by Arts Connection - Cyswilt Celf.

Following the success of the workshop in Llanfyllin, creative workshops will be run in the town on Tuesday afternoons during the Easter holidays, starting with a street dance workshop on March 31. Craft and create with Minecraft Mashup will take place on April 7. Contact Arts Connection on (01691) 648929 to book places.

Assurances given over policing cuts worries

Report by James Pugh

THERE are no current plans to reduce the number of police officers covering Shropshire, according to police and crime commissioner Bill Longmore.

Mr Longmore also revealed the force is actively recruiting for new officers to sustain current numbers.

He was responding to comments made by the Police Federation, which has warned cuts to the policing budget are putting people at risk and leaving communities vulnerable.

Mr Longmore thinks the federation is right to highlight its concerns if policing continues to see major cutbacks from government in the future.

But he is confident that people covered by West Mercia Police, including Shropshire, are currently getting a good policing service.

Mr Longmore said: "It's clear to me that fundamentally we share a lot of common goals and we both want what is best for the public, but I do have to disagree with some of the claims they make.

"I think the federation is right to highlight that there are potential issues we could face if policing continues to see major cutbacks from government in the future, but for the moment that is all hypothetical."

The West Mercia Police Federation has launched a five-week campaign called #CutsHaveConsequences as it claims plans for £36.9 million in budget cuts could lead to the end of the force.

Russell Yeomans, chairman elect of the federation, said: "The thin blue line is getting thinner. It is a very alarming trend. The public are being put at risk and it is only going to get worse."

Jigsaw competition joy for Anna



British Ironwork Centre operations director Ben Knowles and competition winner Anna Davies

SEIZING the opportunity reaped benefits for Oswestry student Anna Davies when she was handed £250 in vouchers from a firm in the town.

The Marches School held a Year 10 'Growing Minds Day' aimed at getting the students to think ahead to the future.

As part of the day, Clive Knowles,

owner of the British Ironwork Centre, set the students a challenge, handing 250 students a piece of a jigsaw.

Back at the British Ironwork Centre there was a jigsaw, nearly complete, but missing one vital piece which one of the students had.

Anna visited the centre and identi-

fied her piece as the 'missing piece', receiving £250 worth of vouchers to spend at the centre as a reward.

Anna, 14, said, "I am delighted to have won. I knew I had a 1 in 250 chance of winning so I thought it was worth a shot and luckily for me it paid off. I can't wait to spend the vouchers now."

Residents told to take advice on insulation

HOMES in Shropshire and Mid Wales are failing to be sold because of a problem with retro-fitted insulation, it has been claimed.

Over the past year several mortgage lenders have told home buyers they will not lend money on some properties because of problems associated with such cavity wall insulation according to Neville Roberts, a property surveyor at Morris, Marshall and Poole. He said the push to have energy efficient homes, including government grant support, had seen a rise in retro-fitted cavity wall insulation in properties in the area.

But not all were suitable for such work, he said. "It is worrying. I've been involved in two property sales where potential purchasers have undertaken a survey and their mortgage lenders have basically said we won't lend you the money," said Mr Roberts.

"The problem is that some homes, steel framed and certain timber framed properties, cannot have such insulation installed.

"Problems such as condensation and damp can be caused with potentially long-term damage and mortgage firms just won't lend as a result.

"Both the sales I was involved in fell through as a result."

He said homeowners were right to ensure their homes were as energy efficient as possible to save money on bills, but it could be at the cost of selling their home in the future. "One of the properties had to have the insulation removed. It was wet and causing dampness on the inside walls," he said. Homeowners are urged to ensure properties can have retro-fitted insulation and ensure they take advice from specialists or reputable installers before proceeding.



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Sightings of big cats in area doubtful says TV man

STORIES of big cats roaming the Shropshire and Mid Wales countryside are simply fanciful, a TV naturalist has said.

Large paw prints in the snow, farm animals savaged by mysterious predators and grainy photographs of huge feline silhouettes have fuelled the debate in the area for years.

But Gordon Buchanan says modern technology makes such stories increasingly fanciful.

Mr Buchanan, whose touching documentaries with wild bears and wolves have led to comparisons with David Attenborough, says it is perfectly possible that panthers or pumas could be prowling the Shropshire countryside. But he says a lack of hard proof means the odds are now heavily stacked against it.

"I said about five years ago that, with everybody carrying mobile phones with cameras, we will soon have conclusive evidence if there were really big cats out there," he says.

"So far that has yet to materialise. Having spent some time with big cats, I know they are expert at concealing themselves and hiding, so it is possible. But in the absence of hard evidence, I think it's looking less likely."

It was recently revealed that Dyfed-Powys Police had been alerted to 14 reported sightings of big cats in the past five years, with many more reported in the West Mercia force area.

Aside from the corpse of an African Jungle Cat - found in Ludlow more than 25 years ago - there has been very little evidence to verify these stories. Mr Buchanan entertained an audience at Oakengates Theatre in Telford on Tuesday with tales about his encounters with weird, wild and wonderful wildlife.

Police are cautious over use of taser weapons

Report by Emma Walker

BOSSSES at the police force which covers the Oswestry area say the use of tasers is "not always the first solution" after it was revealed more than 400 children had the weapons drawn on them by police in England and Wales in 2013.

The Home Office Taser database revealed that tasers were fired at 10 to 17 year olds 37 times, a 38 per cent increase on 2012.

The figures obtained through a Freedom of Information request show the youngest person to have a taser aimed at them was 11, while the youngest person fired on was 14. However, the figures revealed that there were no incidents in the West Mercia Police force area, including the Oswestry area, where anyone under 18 was "fired at or drive-stunned".

Superintendent Lee Davenport, head of operations for West Mercia Police, said: "We take the threat to the public and our own officers and staff extremely seriously and will continue to consider all options available to enhance security."

"Taser is only one of many options available to help to manage threat and risk, and it is not always the first solution."

"There are strict procedures and safeguards in place to ensure that all officers are fully accountable for the deployment of tasers. Every use of taser is reported and scrutinised and officers are individually accountable for the amount of force they use."

"The use of tasers have been rigorously tested over many years and has been safely used in the UK since 2004."

Tia leaps into her charity project



Tia Eggerton before her 10,000ft skydive which is the start of her new 50-year charity project

TEENAGER Tia Eggerton vowed to celebrate her next 50 birthdays by performing a stunt for charity - beginning by jumping out of an aeroplane from 10,000ft.

Tia performed her parachute jump at an airfield near Whitchurch, to mark her 16th birthday. The skydive will raise £400 for One Vision

Shropshire, a charity which provides support for children who are blind or partially sighted.

Tia, who is studying at Walford and North Shropshire College in Oswestry, said she intended to stage a charity event each birthday up to the age of 65. She used her birthday money to pay for the £260 cost of the

dive, plus an extra £100 to have the event filmed, so that all the sponsor money will go directly to the charity.

Tia said: "Each year I am hoping to be raise as much money as possible for charities that are not always that well known, but do amazing things to help and support people within Shropshire."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Social events set to take place

TWO social events will be taking place during the next few weeks in the Oswestry area, organised by Purplefish.

On March 14 there will be a quiz night at the Miners Arms, Morda.

Entry is £10 per team of up to six people and all profits will go to charity.

E-mail james@hopechurchoswestry.org.uk to book a team in.

Secondly, Wilson's in Church Street, Oswestry will host an open mic night on March 20. People should contact 07966 202332 if they want to sing or play.

PurpleFish was the idea of a group from Hope Church in Oswestry who wanted to organise social events to provide space for people to hang out. Regular events include open mic nights, quiz nights, wine tasting evenings and more.

Each year the group also chooses a charity to raise money for through the events. For more information on any of these events visit: www.facebook.com/OsPurpleFish

Organist set to entertain in town

BLACKPOOL'S Tower ballroom organist John Bowdler will perform at a charity fundraiser in Oswestry later this month.

The event will take place at The Marches School in Oswestry.

It will run from 7.30pm to 11.30pm on March 20.

Proceeds from the event will go to the British Heart Foundation and tickets, which cost £7, are available from Betty Bromley MBE on (01691) 653493.

There will be no bar at the event and people are encouraged to take their own food and drink.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Funding given to social housing

MORE than £260,000 has been allocated towards social housing in Powys over the coming year.

The Welsh Assembly's finance and government business minister Jane Hutt said the money has been assigned from the government's reserves and will go towards building up to 90 homes across Wales.

Mrs Hutt said: "Investing in housing is a key part of our Wales Infrastructure Investment Plan and I am delighted to be able to announce an additional £5.8 million for social housing. This new investment will not only bring forward the delivery of 70 to 90 affordable homes, making a real difference to the lives of people across Wales but will act as an economic stimulus supporting growth and jobs."

Charity gives top tips for health

OVER 65s in Welshpool are being reminded they can stay well by following Age Cymru's health and wellbeing tips.

The charity is recommending older people regularly exercise, contact a befriending scheme for additional support and friendship and have the free flu vaccination.

Angharad Phillips from Age Cymru said: "Make the flu vaccination part of your annual routine, particularly if you are 65 or over, or in an at risk group."

"A balanced diet rich in vitamins and minerals is important to build our body's immune system – vitamin D and C are particularly important. And, keep moving – this is a good way to keep warm."

Castle bosses hopeful appeal will be success

Report by Pam Kingsley

OFFICIALS at Powis Castle are hoping a public appeal to raise the £300,000 needed to restore crumbling steps at the property proves successful.

Powis Castle launched the urgent appeal at the start of February to pay for work to save the east front of the building.

Emma Thompson, castle manager, said: "This entrance has been closed off to the public since the building was donated to the National Trust back in 1952 in an effort to prevent further damage. But now, even these precautions aren't enough."

"At the moment, bits of it are, quite literally, starting to crumble down the hill. Damp is spreading through the stonework, the steps are crumbling and our building consultant has informed me that the wall of one of the terraces is in danger of collapse."

She said she had pencilled in the specialist builders to begin work this April, but before she could give the go-ahead to the work the funds were needed to cover the cost.

"The builders estimate that it will cost £500,000 to repair and restore the east front. It's a hefty sum but I've already managed to secure £196,000 towards the repairs," she said. Powis Castle is more than 900 years old and was built by Welsh ruler Gruffudd ap Gwenwynwyn to defend his territory from aggressive neighbours to the north. In the 1580s the mediaeval fortress became a stately home.



Ruth Scutter from Powis Castle takes a look at the old stonework that needs restoring

Ramblers gear up for next walk

THE Welshpool Ramblers Group walk on Sunday will be led by Jim Rowley and comprises a moderate grade circular route of about 10 miles from Tregynon, to include Gregynog Hall grounds, Gwgia Reservoir, the old Dairy and the Dingle.

If circumstances dictate, a shorter option is available but would involve the whole group. People should meet at the Tregynon Community Centre/school car park for a 10.15am (OS Grid ref: SJ 098 987). Alternatively people can meet at 9.30am in the upper part of Church Street car park in Welshpool from where shared transport may be available.

All are welcome, but no dogs on the walk. For further information contact (01686) 650984.

With very poor weather prevailing on February 22 in the Bishop's Castle area, Geoff McLean's walk for the Welshpool Ramblers was reduced to 5.5 miles. From Bishop's Castle, the route followed Cwmawr Dingle, thence to Upper Woodbatch farm, then followed the road to Bishops Moat thence the green lane to Bankhead, a brief lunch stop being made in an old quarry on this lane.

Bike taken from shed in village

THIEVES stole a motorcycle from a locked shed in a Mid Wales village.

Dyfed-Powys Police said the white Husqvarna was stolen from a shed in Guilsfield, near Welshpool.

It was taken between 8.30pm on Tuesday and 7.30am on Wednesday last week.

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Hearing events held in county

FREE support events for people who wear NHS hearing aids will be staged across Shropshire.

The events will be held by the Shropshire Rural Community Council in association with NHS Audiology.

The one-day courses will be held in Telford, Shrewsbury and Market Drayton, with further dates planned for Bridgnorth, Oswestry and Church Stretton later in the year.

Rachel Whitney of Shropshire RCC said: "The course is available to anyone from Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin who wears an NHS hearing aid and will provide useful tips on resources, support, practical help and maintenance."

"Hearing aid wearers are encouraged to bring a friend or family member along as the day also promotes ways of communicating well with others."

Registration is essential and further details can be obtained by e-mail at: shls@shropshire-rcc.org.uk or by phoning Shropshire RCC on (01743) 342168.

Motocross bike is stolen in town

POLICE are appealing for witnesses to the theft of a motocross bike from Welshpool.

The bike, which is orange and black, was taken from a garden shed in the Oldford Rise area of the town.

The bike was taken between 7pm and 9pm, on February 18.

Police said the bike appeared to have been hidden under branches at the Powis Castle Estate near to Berriew Street car park following the theft.

Anyone with information can contact Dyfed-Powys Police in Welshpool on 101.

Care company changes how it operates in area

Report by Karen Evans

ONE of the companies that won a domiciliary care contract from Powys County Council in April last year is to stop providing care itself.

Carewatch, which advertised for 50 new home care support workers in Powys in last year after winning the contract, will effectively 'sub-contract' its work to a local agency.

The company cannot withdraw from the county completely because it would be in breach of the contract it won last year.

Councillor Darren Mayor, cabinet member for adult social care, said: "Carewatch continues to provide home care to the Powys community through our framework agreement."

"Carewatch will continue to deliver its contract in partnership with a local agency and will ensure continuity of care to customers and their families."

"Our highest priority is the care and wellbeing of our citizens and to ensure a continuity of care is maintained throughout. The council will provide support, guidance and advice to any individuals wishing to contact us."

Head of marketing, communication and events at Carewatch, Simon Barter, would not comment on why the company was subcontracting its services to a local agency or what will happen to its clients or staff.

It is just the latest in a long line of issues that have beset domiciliary care provision in Powys since the county council transferred its contracts from 20 companies to just four new providers, Alpha Home Care, Carewatch, Reach and Abicare, in March last year after a tender process.

Historic 17th century farm for sale



Middleton Farm at Chirbury has 24 acres of land and an equestrian facility

FOR the horse lover with a few hundred thousand pounds to spare, this could be a dream home.

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menage, a yard, and sloping pasture paddocks which have direct access onto Stapeley Common, an area of around 400 acres with miles of uninterrupted riding. Middleton Farm is approached by a private drive which leads up to the farmhouse with views across to the Long Mynd mountains and beyond to the Welsh mountains.

It is being sold by Halls in Bishops Castle.

David Bryan Jones from Halls said: "Middleton Farm represents a rare opportunity to acquire a small farm which has been developed for equestrian usage but has a flexible range of buildings and land suitable for a variety of enterprises."

Trenches to be installed at popular visitor site

FIRST World War trenches will be created as part of an educational complex at a popular tourist attraction.

The project, which is being led by Mark Hignett, Oswestry Museum director and trustee, will be built at Oswestry's Park Hall Countryside Experience, and will feature a number of representative trenches, with the aim of telling the story of "100 years of trench warfare".

Mr Hignett said the idea for the project had come about as Shropshire considered ways to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War. He said: "We attended some meetings 12 months ago to do with Shropshire commemorating 100 years since the First World War. A lot of people came up with projects which were very much a one off, but I wanted to come up with something longer lasting so the idea is to have something which shows what the army has learned from 100 years of trench warfare." There will be a number of trenches which make up the complex, including First World War, Second World War, and those used in modern conflicts.

Mr Hignett said the development would be particularly fitting for the area, as both Oswestry and Whitchurch hosted First World War training facilities for trenches.

He said: "It is within sight of the old training camp so it seemed appropriate to build them there. We are planning to build a representative set of trenches, which will include communication trenches, trenches between the front line and the reserve line, and firing trenches."

Designed as an educational experience Mr Hignett said it would be aimed at all ages.

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Loss of goalposts is questioned

THE taking down of goalposts at one of Oswestry's popular recreation grounds means there is nowhere for young people to have a kickabout, a resident has said.

Mark Higgins questioned why the steel goalposts had been removed at the Gatacre Playing Fields at the north of the town at a meeting of Oswestry Local Joint Committee.

"The goalposts were so well used yet three months ago they were taken down. We want to encourage our young people to become more active yet there is no where for them to have an impromptu kickabout," he said.

Councillor Vince Hunt said that there had been a problem with dog fouling on the pitch and said he was hopeful that Woodside School would take over responsibility for the pitch which would then be fenced off and people allowed to borrow a key to use the facilities. Committee member and Shropshire Council leader Keith Barrow promised to look into getting the goalposts reinstated.

Prison's details are confirmed

A NEW super-prison which will serve Shropshire and Mid Wales will be publicly run, with a third of services outsourced to the private sector or charities, ministers have announced.

Her Majesty's Prison Service will take overall ownership of the jail, which is due to open in Wrexham in 2017 and will hold 2,000 inmates, with 34 per cent of service provision handed over to private and voluntary organisations including a large industrial workshop complex.

The £212 million prison will provide around 2,100 Category C places for male offenders from North Wales and north west England.

College addressing the country's skills shortage

Report by Sue Austin

A COLLEGE based in Oswestry is leading the way in the long running battle to address Britain's skills shortage.

Construction, bricklaying and plumbing courses are running in the evenings at Walford & North Shropshire College's Oswestry campus.

The college already offers the courses full time during the day, but now offers the part-time courses for people who work during the day.

Staff say the courses are ideal for anyone looking for a change of career, or who has a home building or restoration project.

Lucy Evans from the college said that full time students could study for vocational diplomas in bricklaying and plumbing.

She said that now those who wanted to pick up an understanding of various construction skills could join new part-time evening courses.

She said: "This course is for those wanting to have a good understanding and awareness of both plumbing and electrical."

"It will provide you the opportunity to pick up some basic skills to carry out both plumbing and electrical tasks within the home."

"The course is for adventurous people who wish to become aware of both plumbing and electrical basic knowledge."

"They may be looking for a change of career and want to pick up some new skills."

"Or perhaps they have a project at home or are even embarking on a major house project that requires them to understand more about construction," Miss Evans added.

Call (01691) 688000 for more details.



Nick Daniels and Patrick Murphy at work during one of Walford and North Shropshire College's lessons

Festival will be packed with events

ORGANISERS behind Llangollen's Walking Festival are promising a "creative menu" for the event.

Short walks through the UNESCO World Heritage Site and Llangollen will be held during the festival, which will run from May 2 to 4. Two of the walks will also include steam train rides, according to organisers.

Mike Smart of TREKsmart.net Walking Guides said: "There are wilderness walks on the high grouse moors, which are nationally important Special Areas of Conservation, walks which visit medieval castles, Cistercian Abbey ruins and huge glacial limestone cliffs, also Nordic walking sessions, photography walk and talk, where you can learn to take great pictures with your smart phone."

"We'll be walking sections of the famous Offa's Dyke Path and see the horse drawn canal boats and, all within the Clwydian Range & Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty."

As part of the festival people can also take part in food and drink walks where they can sample local produce and beverages, as well as evening entertainment with Welsh folk storytelling - in English - music and songs.

Alcohol taken in store break-in

BURGLARS who broke into a Co-op in Oswestry made off with an unknown quantity of cigarettes and alcohol.

The break in happened between 11pm and 5.30am on Monday night, and police believe the offenders forced their way into the store on Castle Street.

Police are asking witnesses to contact them by calling 101 and quoting incident number 36S March 3rd.

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Lionsclub to hold annual beer festival

A REAL ale festival featuring dozens of beers and ciders will be held for the seventh time later this month.

The Lions Club of Oswestry will host its Real Ale Festival at the Memorial Hall in the town centre.

The event will run from March 27 to 29 on the Friday evening, Saturday afternoon and evening and Sunday afternoon.

Spokesman Clive Humphries said: "We plan again to have a wide variety of sensational real ales, all supplied by local breweries.

"The list includes Oswestry's own Stonehouse brewery which is again playing a major role in sourcing the beers, providing specialist equipment and supporting the event.

"We have also had help and support from the Shropshire branch of CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale".

As well as real ales, the event will include cider, wine and soft drinks and food will also be available.

"The price of entry remains the same as last year at £7 for the day, entitling the ticket holder to his or her first four half pints, and a 2015 commemorative glass tankard to use and keep afterwards to add to their collection," Mr Humphries added.

"Programmes can be purchased giving details and tasting notes of all the ales." Mr Humphries said Lions Clubs like Oswestry's are well known throughout the world for the enormous contributions they make to good causes and money raised from the event will go towards this work.

Video CV service rolled out

A VIDEO CV service being pioneered in Shropshire will be rolled out to hundreds of jobseekers across the county after Government funding was sealed to support the scheme.

Shropshire Chamber of Commerce has landed a funding package from the Department for Work and Pensions to roll out its People Portal, which trains jobseekers, including by producing a video CV.

The funding will see 236 people taken through the programme around the county, and is designed to help them to present themselves to would-be employers.

Thrilled

Chris Jones, business development manager at Shropshire Chamber of Commerce, said: "We're thrilled to have gained backing by the Department for Work and Pensions for our People Portal service.

"The early trial we undertook in Shropshire was really well received and many employers were able to find their perfect candidates as a result.

"Individuals can gain the necessary skills that employers are looking for, and have the opportunity to give themselves a unique selling point, at no cost.

"It enables employers to get a valuable glimpse into the personality of the candidate before the interview stage, literally lifting them off the page of a flat CV."

One of those who has already been



Len Cook, Chris Jones and Richard Sheehan, chief executive at Shropshire Chamber of Commerce

through the programme was Len Cook from Telford, who took part in the trial last year and landed a role in the Penkridge Group as a result, following two years of looking for work.

"We understand that finding the right candidate with the right skills and attitude can be a time-consuming process for employers, and it can cost businesses up to £4,500 if they employ the wrong person and have to re-recruit, so it's crucial that it's done right and efficiently the first time," Mr Jones added.

"Traditionally, CVs are used to evidence experience, previous roles and skills, while encompassing personality and hobbies, but it's really hard to get to know someone purely from a piece of paper.

Talent

"People Portal can allow businesses to tap into an influx of talent which they may have previously overlooked based on paper. For example, a recent study by Business in the Community

suggested that over 50s have a higher chance of becoming permanently jobless, compared to younger people. A video CV service such as this may just be the answer to speeding up the process and matching the right candidate with the right role and employer.

"That's why People Portal really has the potential to revolutionise the market across the UK, and we're extremely proud to have launched it here in Shropshire."

The portal has its own website at www.sccopeopleportal.com

NEWS IN BRIEF

School's series of recitals continues

OSWESTRY School's recital series will continue this week with a piano duet by series director Christopher Symons and Martin Roscoe.

This will be the third recital the duo have given in Oswestry and a full audience is expected.

Mozart's Sonata in D major will be followed by the Second Suite of Rachmaninov. Percy Grainger's fantasy arrangement of Gershwin's Porgy and Bess features all the tunes from the operatic musical, and the evening will end with Ravel's La Valse.

The concert will be held on Saturday at Holy Trinity Church, Oswestry, beginning at 7.30pm. Tickets are available on (01691) 681135.

Changes to rural bus service times

THE timetable for the Llanrhaeadr to Oswestry number 79 bus operated by Tanat Valley Coaches will be changing from Monday.

A new early morning service will be introduced on Monday to Saturday from Pentrefelin, Llangedwyn, Llyncllys and Morda to Oswestry starting at 6.33am and arriving in Oswestry at 7am. The journey at 7.37am on Llanfyllin School days from Pentrefelin via Llyncllys and Morda to Oswestry will operate five minutes earlier than currently but will go through to the bus station for the benefit of regular passengers.

Road safety award for MP



Susan Elan Jones with the award

Report by Sue Austin

AN MP from the Shropshire border has been named Parliamentarian of the Year by national road safety charity Brake.

Susan Elan Jones MP received the award for her campaigning which began following the death of a nine-year-old boy from Overton near Ellesmere.

Robert Gaunt, known as Robbie, died after he was hit by two cars as he was pushing his bike on the A539 on the edge of the village six years ago.

Since then Ms Jones has been campaigning for tougher jail terms for drivers who kill and injure.

Working with Robert's family and the Overton community, she has been part of a campaign that has already seen sentencing laws begin to change.

She took her own Bill calling for a review of sentencing guidelines to Parliament winning cross party support.

Her work was praised by Julie Townsend, deputy chief executive of Brake, at an awards ceremony in Westminster. The MP said she was receiving her award on behalf of the community. "I wanted to take this campaign forward in tribute to the excellent work undertaken by Robert's family, Overton Community Council and the wider local community," she said. "Together we have been part of a campaign that has already changed some aspects of sentencing and now we have a full scale Government review taking place. Brake has made this award to me as the local MP, but I very much see it as belonging to all our local campaigners."

Improvements made

SIGNIFICANT improvements to the paediatric mortuary viewing room at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital have been made in order to make the area more comforting and respectful.

The changes are part of a wider review into areas of Shropshire's two main hospitals which "need to improve", according to the health watchdog the Care Quality Commission (CQC).

A plan has been delivered by Shrewsbury

and Telford Hospital NHS Trust that covers all areas of action required by the CQC and is supported by detailed plans to address these.

Following the October 2014 CQC inspection and subsequent publication of the report by the CQC in January, the trust, which controls the RSH and Telford's Princess Royal Hospital, was asked to produce an action plan to address areas which needed improvement.

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Specsavers

Enjoy a special family occasion



The Hand Hotel in Chirk is one of the region's most historic buildings and a great venue for Mother's Day celebrations

VENUES in and around the Oswestry and Welshpool areas will be pulling out all the stops this year to ensure Mother's Day is extra special.

The Hand Hotel at Chirk is offering a special Mother's Day menu.

Customers can enjoy a delicious three course lunch between noon to 4pm for only £17.95.

The Mother's Day celebrations is a great chance to visit The Hand, one of the region's most historic hotels. The Hand was taken over by new management in December 2009 and built in 1610 during the reign of James I. One

of the oldest hotels in north-east Wales is has been tastefully modernised without losing its historical character.

Meanwhile bosses at The Venue at Park Hall near Oswestry are urging families to join them for Mother's Day on March 15.

Families can choose from a special Mother's



There are plenty of great Mother's Day offers at The Venue at Park Hall this year

Day Menu, a fantastic choice of home cooked food and the best part is mums eat free plus there is free soft play with any child's meal purchased. For every glass of wine purchased mums will receive the rest of the bottle free.

Booking is required and terms and conditions do apply.

The terms and conditions include there has to be a minimum of one paying adult and two paying children to receive the free mum's meal.

Any 250ml glass of wine purchased with receive the rest of the bottle free.

The free soft play offer is available with any child's meal purchased.

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Mother's Day Menu

Starters

- Homemade leek and potato soup
Served with a warm bread roll.

Main Courses

- Roast turkey with homemade cranberry and sage stuffing
- Roast beef served with homemade yorkshire pudding
- Mushroom, brie, hazelnut and cranberry wellington

All served with roast potatoes, seasonal vegetables and traditional gravy.

Desserts

- Warm chocolate fudge cake
- Lemon meringue pie

Served with either pouring cream or luxury vanilla ice cream.

1 course - £8.75
(Children's menu also available)

2 courses - £10.75
(Children - £6.25)

3 courses - £12.75
(Children - £8.25)

Sunday 15th March 2015

* Minimum of 1 paying adult and 2 paying children to receive Mum's free meal

**Any 250ml glass of wine purchased will receive the rest of bottle completely free

***Free soft play with any child's meal purchased

Treat your mother to a lovely country meal



Broneirion is a Grade 2 listed country house situated in four acres of landscaped grounds

HOTELS and restaurants are gearing up for a busy time as Mothering Sunday approaches – which this year falls on March 15.

Treating your mother to a nice meal or a great day out has become more and more popular over the years as children up and down the country, young and old, want to show their special mum how much they care.

So why not spoil your mum this year and take her out to a special meal?

One idea is to treat her to a special three course lunch in beautiful surroundings at Broneirion in Mid Wales.

The Grade 2 listed country house is situated just a few hundred yards from the A470 in the village of Llandinam in four acres of landscaped grounds.

All the food is freshly prepared and home-cooked, its members of staff are welcoming and friendly and the surroundings are both picturesque and relaxing, these ingredients com-

binning for a very enjoyable visit. The menu offers a variety of choices such as oven baked Portobello mushroom stuffed with blue cheese served on a bed of leaves with Pembroke Sauce followed by a traditional roast beef with Yorkshire puddings and lemon posset served with Chantilly cream and shortbread biscuit. The country house is happy to cater for any dietary requirements and allergies.

Contact 01686 688204 or email: min@broneirion.com to book and for a menu.

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15TH MARCH

MOTHER'S DAY

AT THE WYNNSTAY HOTEL & SPA

MENU

STARTERS

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Ham hock terrine, quails eggs, peas, asparagus and a mustard dressing
Prawn and crayfish cocktail with brown bread and butter
A tian of Mediterranean vegetables soft cheese with chives, onion marmalade and balsamic

MAIN COURSES

Roasted sirloin of beef carved from our trolley with Yorkshire pudding, seasonal vegetables and a red wine and thyme jus
Roast breast of turkey, sage and onion stuffing, chipolata wrapped in bacon and cranberry puree
Roast leg of spring lamb with a redcurrant and rosemary jus
Fillet of Sea bass with celeriac puree, spring vegetables and a tomato and chervil butter sauce (G)
Open roasted wild mushroom and spinach vegetable lasagne with garlic infused ciabatta (V)

DESSERTS

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Main Courses

Roasted Leg of Welsh Lamb served with mint jelly
Fillet of Salmon served with Sweet Pepper and Prawn Sauce
Breast of Chicken in a Smokey Bacon and Red Wine Sauce
Vegetarian option also available
All served with seasonal vegetables

Desserts

Bramley Apple Pie with Custard
Raspberry and White Chocolate Cheesecake
Eton Mess
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Sunday 15th March

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Community can use defibrillator

A VILLAGE school near Oswestry is to share one of its life-saving defibrillators with the community.

Morda Primary School's successful appeal saw it purchase two heart-start machines, one of which is taken out on school and sports trips, the other kept at school.

Clerk to Oswestry Rural Parish Council Val Smout told last week's council meeting after hearing that the council was looking to put defibrillators in each of its villages the school had suggested that one of its machines could be sited outside school as long as staff could access it.

Mrs Smout said a donation from a Trefonen benefactor meant that a second machine could be bought for Trefonen and the balance of the money could go towards a third machine. Councillors agreed the parish council would cover the cost of the cabinet to house the machine in Morda. She said public meetings about the defibrillators had been well attended in Trefonen and Rhydycroesau but not so well attended in Morda and Maesbury.

Area boosted by lottery grants

MORE than £3 million has been pumped into over 100 projects in Shropshire by the National Lottery over the past year it has been revealed.

New figures released by the grant-giving body have revealed 109 schemes that were "lottery winners" last year.

All of the Shropshire projects has the possibility of gaining national recognition through entering the National Lottery Awards 2015.

To nominate a project visit www.nationallotteryawards.org.uk or call 0207 293 3599 to find out more.

Report outlines levels of low pay around region

Report by James Fisher

A THIRD of all jobs in parts of Shropshire and Mid Wales are paying below the national living wage, a new report has revealed.

A report by the Trades Union Congress has shown 32.2 per cent of all employed people in Montgomeryshire and Ludlow are below the threshold. The living wage, for employees with hourly pay excluding overtime, is currently set at £9.15 in London and £7.85 across the rest of Britain.

The figures, obtained during the second week of the TUC's Fair Pay Fortnight from the House of Commons Library, also showed 42.6 per cent of all females and 60.1 per cent of all part time staff in Montgomeryshire were also below the national average. Telford had the worst figures locally for part time workers with 52.9 per cent, Ludlow for women and all full time employees with 40.2 per cent and 28.6 per cent respectively, while 21.3 per cent of employed males in Shrewsbury and Atcham earned less than £7.85.

Nationally, the figures were 21.7 per cent of all employed, 18.6 per cent men, 26.6 per cent women, 13.4 per cent all full time and 42.3 per cent all part time workers were below the average.

TUC General Secretary Frances O'Grady said extending the living wage was a vital step towards tackling the growing problem of in-work poverty across Britain.

"Working families have experienced the biggest squeeze on their living standards since Victorian times, and these living wage figures show that women are disproportionately affected," she said. "Pay has been squeezed at all levels below the boardroom, and the government's mantra about 'making work pay' is completely out of touch with reality."

Toy competition will boost charity



Emma Manford from The Pincushion in Oswestry has launched a soft toy competition

VINTAGE crafts are being brought back into the spotlight with a competition being run by a wool shop in Oswestry.

Emma Manford from The Pincushion has launched a soft toy competition which will run until May 1.

She said: "After an extremely successful tea cosy competition last year

I have decided to run another competition, for all ages.

"The challenge is to knit, crochet, sew or craft a soft toy.

"Once your masterpiece has been created bring it into The Pincushion, it will be placed for all to see in the shop window, where it will be admired until judging takes place.

"The entry fee is £1, and this will go towards the prize money and the Midlands Air Ambulance charity." Miss Manford, a 33-year-old former arts and textiles teacher, runs the wool shop in Beatrice Street where she holds workshops teaching skills including knitting, crochet, dress-making and how to follow a pattern.

Calf course gives clues on how to spot illness

FIRST there were the horse whisperers – now we have the calf illness spotters.

Dairy and beef farmers are being given the chance to learn how to read their calves' body language for signs of illness in the UK's first-ever calf signals courses.

Hosted by Wynnstay and run by Cheshire vet Owen Atkinson, the courses use skills developed in the Netherlands by Joep Dreissen, a Dutch vet who started running cow signal workshops five years ago.

He says that by monitoring calves' actions and how they interact with their environment, farmers can get a better understanding of their animals' needs and potentially pick up on signs of illness much more quickly.

The courses are being held in March across the region, and are open to exclusively to members of Wynnstay's Calf Club – a free-to-join group which keeps members up-to-date with the latest technologies and developments in the industry.

Wynnstay calf specialist Gill Dickson says the courses focus on critical factors to ensure calves are healthy.

These include calf housing, drainage, humidity and hygiene, but also ways of detecting and preventing stress and illness in animals.

"Many people pick up on illness by noticing a calf's not feeding, but stopping feeding is actually the last thing they do – there are lots of other signs you can pick up on to tell a calf is ill," she said. "If you can pre-empt and catch the illness you stand a better chance of the calf surviving the disease." One of the courses is being held in Oswestry on Tuesday next week. For more information on visit www.wynnstaygroup.co.uk/calfclub.html



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Offender's whereabouts not known

A SEX offender wanted by police in Mid Wales is on the loose.

Information obtained under the Freedom of Information Act revealed that on February 4 there was a registered sex offender recorded as "wanted" by Dyfed-Powys Police, because their whereabouts are unknown.

Officers would not confirm who the offender is or what the reasons are for them to be included on the register.

In a statement, the force said: "In considering whether or not this information should be disclosed, consideration has been given to the potential harm that could be caused by disclosure. The general public are also aware that modern day policing is intelligence led and that there are changes on a day to day basis.

"Disclosure of information in respect of how long registered sex offenders have been missing would cause operational harm to the Dyfed-Powys Police Force through resource impact and potentially place an individual at great risk of harm, which in turn would have an adverse effect on the general public by affecting ability to fulfil our core function of law enforcement."

Inquest on man is adjourned

THE inquest on a former quarry worker has been opened and adjourned.

Michael Teasdale Ibbetson, 83, of The Court Nursing Home, West Felton, Oswestry, died on Sunday, February 15.

The inquest was adjourned by Shropshire Coroner John Ellery.

The inquest on Mr Ibbetson will be held on June 3.

Sponsorship agreement criticised by authorities

By Dominic Robertson

COMMUNITY councils have criticised the National Eisteddfod's decision to accept sponsorship from a windfarm developer.

Meifod, Carreghofa and Llansantffraid Community Councils sent a joint letter to the chief executive of the National Eisteddfod, Elfed Roberts, warning that the event is being cynically used as a "public relations platform" by RWE Innogy.

However, Mr Roberts said the sponsorship adheres to the National Eisteddfod's policies and has enabled it to develop a new community choir project. RWE has also rejected the criticism, claiming it always aims "to make a positive difference" in the communities in which it works.

The site of the eisteddfod, at Mathrafal, Meifod, is close to the route intended for National Grid's proposed 33-mile electricity cable line. Campaigners oppose the cable plans, saying the pylons needed will desecrate the landscape.

RWE Innogy is also the firm behind one of the windfarms, Carnedd Wen, which would require the new cables to connect to the national electricity network.

The letter from the councils said: "You are allowing RWE to make a public relations case using the National Eisteddfod as a vehicle."

However, Mr Roberts said the sponsorship means a community choir can be formed which will culminate in a performance at the eisteddfod this summer.

Mark Fleming of RWE Innogy said the firm had a history of over two decades supporting communities and activities in Mid Wales and the eisteddfod was no different.



Campaigners fear the windfarm plans will see lines of pylons such as these installed in the countryside

NEWS IN BRIEF

Plea to join big coracle contest

A CALL has gone out for teams to enter the Macmillan Coracle World Championships in Shropshire – and organisers have set their sights on a record-breaking year.

The event is in its seventh year and sees teams battle their way across the River Severn in Shropshire in traditional coracles, with the winners being declared world champions.

All proceeds go towards supporting people affected by cancer in Shropshire and organisers have set a fund-raising target of £40,000, which would be the highest total ever raised at the event.

This year's event will take place on the afternoon of September 11, which is later than previous years, but teams are being encouraged to sign up as soon as possible to avoid missing out.

Sponsors are also being sought, with individual coracles and the event itself available for sponsorship.

For more details email coracleworldchampionships@gmail.com or call 07977 864278.

Dog bin appeal is turned down

A CALL for dog fouling bins to be placed on a playing field in a village has been turned down – because dogs are not supposed to be on the area in the first place.

Oswestry Rural Parish Council received a letter from a resident of Trefonen about the issue.

The resident asked for two bins on the recreation ground for dog walkers. But councillors said that as dogs were not supposed to be on any playing field putting bins in place would only serve to condone the owners breaking the rules.

Instead the council is to look at putting up No Dog signs.



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Variety of experts at seminar on key issues

KEY issues affecting Shropshire's farming and rural communities will be central to an annual Spring seminar set to be held in March.

Experts from county law firm mfg Solicitors and the Country Land & Business Association (CLA) will host the seminar which for the first time, will feature a panel of specialists giving their insights based on a rural-related case study.

The event, which is free to attend, will take place on Tuesday, March 24 from 4pm at Shrewsbury Town Football Club.

The panel will cover issues including farming family business structures, diversification, succession planning and protecting family assets by way of pre-nuptial agreements.

Helen Gough, senior assistant solicitor at mfg Solicitors, said: "We will have a variety of experts at the seminar and the panel is packed full of legal and land professionals who have extensive experience in the sector."

"This year the event will be based around a case study and each panel member will input their own expertise. People will also have the opportunity to ask questions and debate the topics raised."

"The agricultural industry is going through some enormous change at present."

"Alongside our partners at the CLA we want to tackle the issues facing farmers and landowners and ensure they are informed and confident about the future."

Those interested in attending the two-hour seminar, which includes a light buffet, must pre-register for tickets.

To reserve a place, readers can email Debbie Nicholson at the CLA through debbie.nicholson@cla.org.uk or telephone 01785 337010.

Solar panels 'support food production'

USING farmland for energy schemes such as solar farms is "definitely supporting" food production, not damaging it, experts said.

Solar farms are the latest renewable technology to have attracted criticism for taking land away from growing food, with Environment Secretary Elizabeth Truss suggesting fields of panels would be better used for agriculture as she cut a subsidy for such schemes.

But National Farmers' Union (NFU) chief policy adviser on renewable energy Jonathan Scurlock said the land could be used for multiple purposes and support farms whose main purpose was producing food.

Planning and best practice guidance said that solar farms, which can cover acres of land in rows of power-generating panels, should be on the lowest quality agricultural land, he said.

And with just three per cent to five per cent of the land occupied by the panels, sites could still be used for sheep grazing, free-range poultry, or growing insect-friendly wildflowers or seed crops to support farmland birds, he said.

Surveying by the NFU showed that a third of farmers had put renewable energy into their business, including growing energy crops such as miscanthus or willow or supplying straw for heat generation.

Mr Scurlock said: "Energy production from the land is not taking away from food production, it is most definitely supporting food production."

He added: "If the income from the solar farm can help the farmer get through a bad agricultural year that's good, it's supporting profitable farming, ensuring the survival of the farming enterprise into the next generation."

Mr Scurlock said the price of solar energy was falling markedly and would be cheaper than gas fired power plants by 2025.

£3.75m investment in poultry units



Stuart Thomas, Berrys' head of planning

Six new poultry houses are to be built in South Shropshire in a £3.75 million investment for the agricultural industry.

The new broiler units are being established by two local farmers, one expanding an existing enterprise while the other is new to poultry production.

The planning consents for the two new sites were secured by planning consultants at Berrys who worked closely with the individual farmers and councils to ensure permission was obtained with minimum hassle.

"Communication is key to a successful planning application and we were keen

to engage with the local community and council at all stages," said Stuart Thomas, Berrys' head of planning based at the Shrewsbury office.

"This is a £3.75 million investment for South Shropshire and will bring employment for local people for years to come as well as sustaining the longer term future of the farming businesses."

The planning permission was achieved at the end of last year for Steven Povall at Corfton Farm, Craven Arms and Peter Jones at Wistanstow.

Work has already started on one of the sites at Corfton and Peter Jones will add

two more units to his poultry site in the spring.

Berrys has also submitted application for another four units in South Shropshire and has a further six in the pipeline across the rest of Shropshire.

"We currently have a 100 per cent track record in obtaining consents for these types of schemes," Stuart added.

The firm is also able to secure the necessary environmental permits as well as planning permissions.

To discover how Berrys can help your development, proposal contact Stuart Thomas at Berrys on (01743) 267069.

Strong summer could blight potato prices

GOOD weather last year could be set to present a pricing problem for Britain's legion of potato farmers, a new report has claimed.

Just over 121,000 hectares of potato fields were planted in Great Britain last year, a similar figure to the year before.

However, the strong weather led to a 5.7 million tonne crop of the tubers, three per cent more than the year before.

And after retail sales volumes fell by eight per cent in 2013 - meaning 133,000 tonnes fewer being sent to consumers - that could lead to a pricing crisis.

"A favourable growing season in 2014 resulted in a 5.7m tonne crop, which was 3 per cent up on the previous season," said Potato Council chair Fiona Fell.

"By November the estimated GB stock position was the equivalent to 2 boxes per hectare (200,000 tonnes) higher than a year before."

"The industry has been successful in reducing supply chain waste and coupled with a drop in fresh potato consumption; this results in a new base level for production, well below what we have been used to."

The high stocks have been placed under further pressure by a North West European crop of 28 million tonnes, four million above the five-year average.

"The result is extremely uncomfortable and very challenging for our grower base," Mrs Fell added. "Ex-farm free-buy prices, both at home and abroad, have been weak reflecting the supply situation. The GB weekly free-buy price fell to a new season low in the week ending Jan 16, hitting £77.43 per tonne compared to £152.09 per tonne at the same point last season."

"This is the lowest it has reached since autumn 2009, and the lowest for the time of year since the 2002/03 season."

Volatility is set to continue across agriculture and contracts are an important means of managing risk, Mrs Fell added.

"It's paramount that growers work to build strong relationships with their buyers,

FARMING LATEST

Report by Thom Kennedy

ers, based on trust and transparency," she said.

"Although there's been some progress with shorter chains and longer terms, contracts only work when terms are honoured by both parties."

"We encourage growers who have not had contracts honoured this season to contact their farming union for advice and legal assistance with handling disputes."

Disease levels in winter wheat may be lower than last year but all crops drilled up to the end of October, should be earmarked for a T0 fungicide.

That's the advice from BASF's agronomy manager Tom Scanlon who says both Septoria and rust can be readily found in many stands, irrespective of variety.

"Although disease levels are generally lower than last year, there is still plenty of disease present. We are not far behind last year which saw the biggest response to fungicide on record in HGCA national RL trials, at 4.2t/ha."

"If we end up with a warm, wet spring, disease could take off. All crops, except those drilled very late, should be sprayed with a T0 fungicide at GS31."

T0 is viewed as the foundation spray of any fungicide programme, as early suppression reduces chances of having to chase disease later in the season and helps ensure the crucial T1 and T2 sprays are applied at the right time, says Tom.

"The key is to apply the T0 as leaf four emerges, which protects the crop through to the correct T1 timing when leaf three is coming out. The best way to determine this is to dissect the main tiller on a few plants to assess leaf emergence, using a diagram for guidance. Last year some first sprays went on earlier than this and compromised the timing of the rest of the programme."

"Protection of individual leaves is the most important factor in determining optimum timings," says Tom.



Potato prices could be severely hampered by the strength of supply

Now's the time to take stock of your farm finances

NOW is the right time to assess cash needs and consider restructuring debt.

The beginning of the year is typically the time when farmers take stock of their finances - often in readiness for the annual bank manager review. Given the generally poor outlook for farm-gate prices, especially in sectors such as potatoes and dairy, the task this year is not one to be relished.

However, finding the time to properly assess the financial status of the business and knowing where the cash pinch-points will be in the future could be the difference between success or failure for some, says Gareth Lay, at Property Consultants Bruton Knowles.

The first imperative is to budget honestly and be realistic with your projections and assumptions. Being over-optimistic on your calculations will not serve you well when it comes to the reality of your cash flow and the requirements for working capital.

How much will you need and when? What will this



Spring is the ideal time to review the farm finances

mean to your overall debt position and how will you manage this in the best interests of your business?

For some the impetus for planning ahead will be to

"trade through" the next few months. This may mean some "fag packet" calculations, arriving at a reasonably sensible figure, speaking to the bank manager and adopting a "hope for the best" outcome. It's a strategy but ultimately could be a costly one.

Others will invest the time to more fully consider all the key financial drivers of their business. This could include the short to medium term cash needs, say for the coming year, but may also include the need to invest in the business over time. When a realistic assessment of cash need is done it's time to consider the total level of debt and how this can best be structured. With cost management high on the agenda, knowing the total monthly or annual cost of borrowed money becomes a key consideration and one that informs the best option for the future.

The overdraft is an obvious starting point but there are other, more secure, alternatives that could provide breathing space for the business to trade successfully in a tough time.

Do you have any farming news to share with our readers? Email shirley.currie@shropshirestar.co.uk

↑Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING



Beautiful cottage is in an idyllic setting

A beautifully presented detached cottage in an idyllic position down a quiet country lane, Rose Cottage, Iron Mills, Gobowen, Oswestry is surrounded by open countryside popular with walkers and cyclists. Also just 2km from the Shropshire Union Canal, it is for sale through Halls at £425,000. It has an entrance hall with a slate floor, a reception hall/study with stairs off, a sit-

ting room with patio doors out to a decked seating area and a multi fuel stove on a slate hearth. There is also a kitchen/dining room including a feature original Coalbrookdale Range set within a brick chimney breast with an oak beam over, exposed timbers and a tiled floor, a sun room with a vaulted ceiling and an exposed random stone floor. The property also has a utility room, WC, master

bedroom suite with en suite, bedroom two with a double wardrobe and bedroom three with part of an exposed truss and a bathroom including a spa bath, bath and fully tiled shower unit. Outside is a double garage with first floor storage and plentiful gardens with fruit trees. For further information contact Halls on 01691 670320 or visit www.hallsgb.com



Terrace bungalow is close to all the village's amenities

A two-bedroomed terrace bungalow, 7 The Cross, Gobowen, is situated within walking distance of the village's amenities. The property has gas central heating and double glazing and benefits from parking and a rear garden. It is on the market with JJ Dell & Co for £120,000 and there is no chain. Accommodation comprises an entrance hall, living room, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, and a conservatory. For more information contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 or 680212.



Well-designed development offers a welcoming setting

The Fletcher Homes-built Wat's Meadow development in Gobowen is a fine example of a well-designed development with green open spaces and landscaped areas to provide a welcoming setting. There is a choice of house types at Wat's Meadow with 2, 3 and 4 bedroom homes. The furnished show homes at Wat's Meadow are open from Thursday through to Monday from 11am to 5pm. Call 01691 679490 or e-mail homes@fletcherhomes.co.uk for more details.

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Woodhill Oswestry £425,000

- This beautifully presented and luxuriously appointed barn conversion has been finished to the highest of standards and sits in an elevated position offering excellent views over open countryside
- Kitchen/Dining Room, Utility Room, Lounge, 4 Bedrooms (two en-suite) and Family Bathroom
- Large garden, gravelled driveway and garage together with a raised seating area taking full advantage of the stunning views
- Oil central heating and double glazing. EPC Rating D



Holbache Gardens Oswestry £340,000

- A substantial detached 3 storey, 5 bedroom modern property
- Situated close to the heart of Oswestry town centre
- Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Living/Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility
- Master Bedroom (En-Suite), 4 further Bedrooms and 2 further Bathrooms
- Externally the property benefits from an enclosed rear garden
- Good size drive bounded by brick walls and ornate railings
- Gas central heating and double glazing. EPC Rating C



Brydges Gate Llandrinio £350,000

- A well appointed and attractive 4 Bedroom Detached House
- Situated in an enviable cul-de-sac location with views towards Llanymynech Rock, Rodney's Pillar and surrounding open countryside.
- Entrance Hallway, Cloakroom, Dining Room, Lounge, Kitchen, Utility Room, Conservatory,
- 4 Double Bedrooms, 2 En-Suite Bathrooms, Family bathroom and Double garage
- Lead lighted double glazed windows and oil central heating. EPC Rating D
- Set in a generous plot with a large brick driveway and spacious double garage



Cabin Lane Oswestry £119,995

- Spacious and well appointed Semi-Detached House
- Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Living Room, Conservatory
- 2 good size Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Well maintained garden and secure off-road parking
- uPVC double glazing, Gas C/H. EPC Rating C



Castle Street Oswestry £93,500

- Deceptively spacious 2 Bedroom Terraced House
- Entrance Hall, Living Room, Dining Room
- Cellar, Kitchen, 2 good size Bedrooms
- Bathroom and Attic Room
- Private slabbed courtyard style garden
- Gas C/Hand partial double glazing. EPC Rating E



Willow Street Oswestry £185,000

- Situated in a prime location in the Town centre close to Wilkinsons, Edinburgh Woollen Mill and Tote Bookmakers etc.
- Recent cafe fit out, ideal for continued use (late night licence until 3.00 am) or possible alternative use
- Spacious first and second floor apartment, ideal for owner occupation/letting.



Prince Charles Road Oswestry £149,995

- A spacious and newly refurbished 3 Bed Semi-Detached House
- Brand new fitted kitchen and bathroom, complete redecoration
- A new central heating boiler
- Living Rm, Kitchen, 3 Beds & Family Bathrm
- Good size front & rear gardens & driveway
- Gas C/H and uPVC D/G. EPC Rating D

Property Auction

26 March

2.00pm

@ the Lion Quays Hotel, Moreton Oswestry SY11 3EN

LOT 1 AUCTION



Caergwile WREXHAM

- Guide Price £80,000-£100,000**
- Detached bungalow
 - Rural Location
 - Certificate of Lawful Development for Extension.
 - Grounds approx 0.6 of an acre
 - Outlooks over farmland
 - Contact Wrexham Office

LOT 2 AUCTION



Ruabon WREXHAM

- Guide Price £175,000-£225,000**
- Former residential care home
 - Large period house
 - Occupying screened gardens and grounds
 - Rural outlook to rear set in over 1 ac
 - Substantial extension and annexe to the rear
 - Double-garage block
 - Main parking and turning area
 - In Agent's opinion- excellent potential for a number of uses (subject to consent)
 - Energy Rating G
 - Contact Llangollen Office

LOT 3 AUCTION



St Martins OSWESTRY

Guide Price Over £60,000

- 3 Bedroom Ground Floor Leasehold Apartment
- Maintained to a High Standard
- Entrance Hall, Lounge
- Inner Hallway, Kitchen/Dining Room
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Rear Garden with Views
- EPC Rating D
- Contact Oswestry Office

LOT 4 AUCTION



Trevor LLANGOLLEN

Guide Price Over £100,000

- DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY
- Former garage site
- Extends to approx 0.57 acres (0.23 hectares)
- Outline planning permission for residential development
- Situated in the village of Trevor
- Fringe of the picturesque Dee Valley
- Close to the World Heritage Site of Pontcysyllte Aqueduct.
- Contact Llangollen Office

LOT 5 AUCTION



Overton WREXHAM

Guide Price Over £70,000

- A charming end-mews cottage with beamed ceilings. Grade II Listed
- Central position within Overton-on-Dee
- Two bedroom, modern kitchen and bathroom
- Gas fired central heating from a modern combination boiler
- EPC Rating D
- Contact Wrexham Office

LOT 6 AUCTION



Ellesmere ELLESMERE

Guide Price Over £250,000

- Detached modern dormer bungalow
- Four bedrooms - One En-suite.
- Good sized gardens & garage.
- Gas fired c/h, uPVC d/glazed
- Located on fringes of town centre.
- EPC Rating B
- Contact Ellesmere Office

Our local valuers offer many years of experience and offer honest and independent advice on the how to achieve the best price possible. To arrange a free no-obligation market appraisal please contact one of the offices.



The Auction Catalogue can be downloaded from

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OIRO £1,200,000



Oswestry Thornhill
5 BED DET HOUSE
SOUGHT AFTER LOCATION
ANNEXE
EPC RATING D
OIRO £569,950



Llanymynech Culmington House
5 BED DET HOUSE
DOUBLE GARAGE
4 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING C
OIRO £399,950



Dudleston Heath OakFields Farm
3 BED DET HOUSE
APPROXIMATELY 3 ACRES
DOUBLE GLAZING
EPC RATING E
OIRO £374,950



Pant Roann
4 BED DET HOUSE
SECLUDED LOCATION
EXTENSIVE GARDENS
EPC RATING D
OIRO £369,950



NEW PRICE

Trefonen Endsland Cottage
3 BED DET HOUSE
PLUS 1 BED ANNEXE
3 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING D
OIRO £349,950



Pant Westtra
3 BED DET SPLIT LEVEL PROPERTY
PLUS ONE BED ANNEXE
APPROX 2 ACRES LAND
EPC RATING D
OIRO £339,950



Treflach Craig Y Don
4 BED DETACHED PROPERTY
INTEGRAL COTTAGE INDUSTRY
POPULAR VILLAGE LOCATION
EPC RATING D
OIRO £339,950



NEW PRICE

Dudleston Brookleigh
DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING D
OIRO £299,995



NEW PRICE

Oswestry 178 Middleton Road
5 BED DET HOUSE
DOUBLE GARAGE
TWO EN SUITES
EPC RATING C
OIRO £294,950



NEW

Upper Hengoed 1 Perry Bank
5 BED DET HOUSE
ENVIABLE VIEWS
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING D
OIRO £289,950



West Felton 6 Grimpo
3 BED DET BUNGALOW
UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING
FRONT AND REAR GARDENS
EPC RATING D
OPEN TO OFFERS £269,950



Llanymynech Curbardale
4 BED DET BUNGALOW
LANDSCAPED GARDEN
MASTER ENSUITE
EPC RATING E
OIRO £269,950



NEW PRICE

Llanfyllin The Corner House
8 BEDROOMS
GRADE 2 LISTED
CONVENIENCE SHOP
EPC RATING G
OIRO £259,950



Glyn Ceiriog Glascoed
3/4 BED DET BUNGALOW
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
ENVIABLE VIEWS
EPC RATING E
OIRO £249,950



Oswestry 41 Oak Drive
4/5 BED DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
LUXURY BATHROOM
EPC RATING D
OIRO £248,995



Treflach Lilac House
4 BED DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
KITCHEN/ DINER
EPC RATING D
OIRO £244,950



Llansanffraid Dol Awel
3 BED DET BUNGALOW
SPLENDID VIEWS
PRETTY GARDENS
EPC RATING E
OIRO £239,950



Llanymynech 15 Parc Llwyfen
4 BED DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
UTILITY AREA
EPC RATING D
OIRO £229,500



Maesbury 1 Belgrave Place
4 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
ENSUITE MASTER BEDROOM
EPC RATING F
OIRO £219,950



Oswestry 3 Victoria Parade
4 BED TERRACE HOUSE
OFF ROAD PARKING
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING D
OIRO £209,950



Oswestry 11 High Lea Close
3 BED DETACHED HOUSE
POPULAR LOCATION
EXTENSIVE CELLAR AREA
EPC RATING D
OIRO £204,950



Treflach Martindale
2 BED DET BUNGALOW
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
VILLAGE LOCATION
EPC RATING E
OIRO £199,950



Oswestry 40 Hampton Fields
3 BED DET BUNGALOW
SOUGHT-AFTER AREA
EN SUITE TO MASTER BED
EPC RATING E
OIRO £197,500



NEW PRICE

Pant Glyndwr
2 BED DET BUNGALOW
LIVING ROOM/ DINER
OPEN VIEWS
EPC RATING D
OIRO £189,950



Chirk Bank 83 Oaklands Road
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
CONSERVATORY
QUIET LOCATION
EPC RATING C
OIRO £184,950



Four Crosses 4 Vyrnwy Crescent
4 BED DET BUNGALOW
CONSERVATORY
DOUBLE GLAZING
EPC RATING D
OIRO £179,950



Llangedwyn Maes Teg
3 BED DET BUNGALOW
DET GARAGE
DRIVEWAY
EPC RATING D
OIRO £179,950



Oswestry 2 Upper Well Close
3 BED TOWN HOUSE
NO CHAIN
DOWNSTAIRS WC
EPC RATING C
OIRO £159,950



NEW

Gobowen 25 Perry Road
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
SPLIT LEVEL
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING C
OIRO £159,950



Llanfyllin Garden Lodge
3 BED DETACHED HOUSE
NO CHAIN
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING G
OIRO £154,950



NEW PRICE

Whittington 3 Rosehill Close
3 BED SEMI DET BUNGALOW
VILLAGE LOCATION
GARAGE
EPC RATING D
OIRO £144,950



NEW PRICE

Oswestry 3 Aston Close
3 BED DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
ALSO AVAILABLE AS 50% SHARE
EPC RATING D
OIRO £142,950

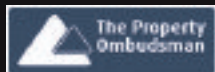


NEW

Oswestry 1 Crestwood Bungalows
2 BED SEMI DET BUNGALOW
CONSERVATORY
OFF ROAD PARKIN
EPC RATING TBC
OIRO £99,950

LETTINGS

23 YORK STREET, OSWESTRY. 2 BED TERRACED HOUSE£395 PCM
THE ANNEXE, MAESBURY MARSH. 1 BED ANNEXE£425 PCM
4 PLAS OFFA, CHIRK 2 BED TERRACE COTTAGE.....£495 PCM
19 HERITAGE WAY, LLANMYNECH. 4 BED TOWN HOUSE£525 PCM
4 THE OLD TANNERY, OSWESTRY. 2 BED TERRACE HOUSE£550 PCM
28 CASTLE WALKS, CHIRK. 3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE.....£625 PCM



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Farmhouse has many outstanding features

Woodhead Estates is privileged to offer Bryn Goleu, St Martins, to the sales market with its many outstanding benefits, not least of which being its quiet rural setting. On the market for offers in the region of £549,950, at the heart of Bryn Goleu is a well-proportioned period farmhouse with many lovely internal features as well as a peaceful lawned garden. There is land, predominantly laid to pasture, extending to approximately five acres, an extensive range of outbuildings, as well as a two-storey red-brick barn converted to provide business accommodation. For more details contact Woodhead Estates on 01691 680044.



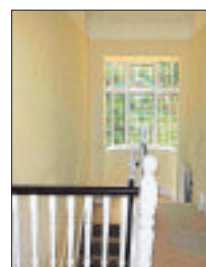
Terrace property is located in popular village

A modern two bedroom end terrace, 37 Cae Haidd at Llanymynech, is on the market with Town & Country for £125,000. The property benefits from gas central heating and double glazing throughout. Internal accommodation comprises entrance hall, lounge, kitchen/breakfast room, conservatory, two bedrooms and bathroom. Externally the property benefits from ample off road parking. Situated in the popular village location of Llanymynech, the property has all local facilities close at hand, and is within easy reach of all local road networks. Contact Town & Country on 01691 679631 for more details.



Home has exceptionally well appointed accommodation

A large detached Edwardian family village house, Sunnyside on Station Road in Whittington offers exceptionally well appointed accommodation throughout. The property is on the market with JJ Dell & Co for £269,950. Accommodation includes an entrance hall, cloakroom, three reception rooms and a breakfast/kitchen. Upstairs there are four bedrooms and a large family bathroom. The property also has a sewing room. The property is set back from the road and is approached over a concreted drive providing ample car parking and access to garaging. For more details contact JJ Dell and Co on 01691 653437 or 680212.



Elegant and imposing period house in mature gardens

An imposing late Victorian residence in a sought-after part of Oswestry is on the market at £375,000. Croftside, Queens Road, stands in large mature gardens and has a hall, drawing room and dining room. There is a cloakroom, sitting room, kitchen/breakfast room utility and a cellar. The master bed is en-suite, bedroom two has a dressing room. There are three more bedrooms and a family bathroom. Call Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 652367 for more details.



TOWN & COUNTRY

Tel :01691 679631

LETTINGS

- Oswestry, 2 x Retirement Ap't £300pcm / £400pcm
- Weston Rhyn, 2 Bed Ap't £400pcm
- Glyn Ceiriog, 2 Bed Ter £400pcm
- Oswestry, 2 Bed House £450pcm
- Chirk, 3 Bed House £525pcm
- Llanrhaeadr, 3 Bed Bung £550pcm
- Llanfyllin, 3 Bed Det £550pcm
- St Martins, 3 Bed House £575pcm
- St Martins, 4 Bed House £625pcm
- Fees apply for all rental properties

OSWESTRY



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DUDLESTON HEATH



- Modern End Mews House
- Backing Onto Open Fields
- Parking and Gardens. EPC C.

- Upvc Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Modern Interior

Offers in the region of £119,950

LLANMYNECH



- Building Plot
- Outline Planning Permission
- For Detached Bungalow
- Subject to Section 106
- Edge of Village Location
- Down a Private Driveway
- Flat Site with Services Close
- Generous Gardens

Offers in the region of £95,000

LLANMYNECH



- Immaculate Two Bedroom
- End of Terrace
- Popular Edge of Village

- Gas Central Heating
- uPVC Double Glazing
- Landscaped Garden

£119,995

WESTON RHYN



- End of Terrace Cottage
- Two Bedrooms
- Master Bedroom En-suite

- Shower Room. EPC D
- Off Road Parking
- Gas Central Heating

Offers in the region of £122,000

OSWESTRY



- Three Bedroom
- Detached Family Home
- Conservatory. EPC D.
- Downstairs Shower Room
- Family Bathroom

- Private Garden
- Single Garage
- Off-Road Parking
- uPVC Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating

£200,000

OSWESTRY



- Three Bedroom
- Semi Detached Family Home
- Gas Central Heating. EPC D.

- uPVC Double Glazing
- Off-Road Parking
- Viewing Recommended

£125,000

CHIRK



- Three Bedroom House
- Good Sized Garden
- Two Reception Rooms

- Utility and Cloakroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing

£139,950

GOBOWEN



- Large 3 Bed Semi Detached
- Single Garage And Parking
- Upvc Double Glazing

- Good Sized Gardens
- Well Maintained. EPC C.
- Popular Location

Offers in the region of £145,000

OSWESTRY



- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Two Reception Rooms
- On Outskirts of Oswestry

- uPVC Double Glazing
- Detached Single Garage
- Ample Off-Road Parking

£149,950

FOUR CROSSES



- Three Bedroom Detached
- Family Home. EPC D.
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Good Sized Utility, W.C.

£179,950

OSWESTRY



- Modern Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Garage And Parking
- Beautiful Condition

Offers in the region of £180,000

OSWESTRY



- Modern Town House
- Sought After Location
- Three Double Bedrooms

- Private Rear Garden
- Garage & Parking
- Upvc D.G. / Gas C.H.

£179,950

GOBOWEN



- Detached Family Home
- Three Bedrooms. EPC D
- Potential 4th Bed/small annexe

- Ground Floor Shower Room
- Double Glazing/ Gas C.H.
- Views Over The Village

£185,000

OSWESTRY



- Detached Family Home
- Popular Location
- Four Bedrooms



- Ensuite & Bathroom
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Well Presented

£230,000

OSWESTRY



- Spacious Detached House
- Sought After Location
- Five Bedrooms. EPC C

- Well Presented
- Attractive Elevated Gardens
- Two Reception Rooms

£375,000

GOBOWEN



- VIEWING RECOMMENDED
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Detached Former Farmhouse
- Private Location

£239,500

LLANSANTFFRAID



- Modern Detached Bungalow
- Set In Approx 1/3rd Acre
- Well Presented
- Three Bedrooms

£249,950

LLANGYNOG



- Charming Character Cottage
- 3 Bedrooms & 3 Ensuites
- 3 Rec. Rooms, Utility, Cloaks
- Workshop & Garage

£260,000

WEST FELTON



- Spacious Family Home
- Fully Updated Throughout
- Four Bedrooms (One Ensuite)
- Spacious Accommodation

£275,000

PONTFADOG



- Detached Country House
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Beautifully Presented

£335,000

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- 1.75 Acres

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RICS


9 Border Close, Oswestry
£142,500

Semi detached house and garage. Three bedrooms and bathroom. Fitted kitchen and rear lounge. Gas-fired central heating, double glazing. Enclosed lawned rear garden. Close to the town centre. Head of cul-de-sac in popular estate. EPC Rating = 61 (D)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595


18 Peverel Drive, Whittington
£255,000

An extended detached house. Four Bedrooms, two en-suites, bathroom. Three reception rooms, cloaks, utility. Gas-fired central heating, double glazing. Large timber built vehicle / fuel store. Good sized gardens to side and rear. Head of cul-de-sac in popular village. EPC Rating = 65 (D)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595


Unit at Pentre, Woodhill
£140,000

Grade II listed stone-built derelict cottage. Residential conversion works commenced. Standing in a delightful parkland setting. Semi rural location and pleasant views. Three bedrooms and two reception rooms. Kitchen and ground floor cloaks. Detached stone built garage - complete. Private approach over shared driveway.

Oswestry Office 01691 679595


Tan-y-Twist, Llanrhaeadr YM
£139,950

Charming village cottage. Character features throughout. Situated in an elevated position overlooking the village. Lounge, sun room, kitchen/breakfast. Bedroom with en-suite shower. Garden and seating area, shed. EPC Rating = 18 (G)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595


Gwel-Yr-Afon, Heulfryn Llanfair Caereinion
£225,000

Detached Four Bedroom House. Hallway, Kitchen, Living/dining room. Sitting Room, Conservatory, Utility Room. 4 Bedrooms, Office, Family Bathroom. Propane Gas Central Heating. Fully Double Glazed. Integral single garage and driveway. Garden with patio and water feature. Views over Town and surrounding countryside. Energy efficiency rating = 41

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION ON 26TH March at 2pm at Welshpool Livestock Sales, Buttington Cross, Welshpool, SY21 8SR

Former Primary School, Dolfor, Newtown

Former Primary School. Set in generous level grounds of 1 acre (est.). Situated in the village of Dolfor. Constructed in 1953. Adaptable building suitable for a multiple range of uses (subject to consent). Overage Clause applies.

GUIDE PRICE: £140,000 to £160,000

Newtown Office 01686 626160


14 College Green, Tywyn, Gwynedd

Substantial end terrace property with mixed residential/commercial use. In need of extensive refurbishment. Convenient location just off the town centre. Extensive floor area with 3 bedroom maisonette above. Energy Efficiency Rating=55

GUIDE PRICE: £70,000

Tywyn |Office 01654 710388


Rheobarth Chapel, Corris Machynlleth

Former Methodist Chapel. Dating back to 1925. Grade II listed. Potential for multitude of uses. Chapel room approx 59' x 40'. Original pine pews and benches. Hall room approx 60' x 34'. Full Vacant Possession.

GUIDE PRICE: £60,000 to £65,000

MachynllethOffice 01654 702472


4 Brynglas Walk, Tywyn, Gwynedd

3/4 bedroomed detached bungalow. Gas centrally heated and double glazed. Low maintenance garden. Quiet Cul de Sac location. Level walking distance to the town centre & seafront. Energy Efficiency Rating=53

GUIDE PRICE: £105,000

Tywyn |Office 01654 710388


2 Ty Arfon, Tywyn, Gwynedd

Excellent two bedroom first floor flat. Good views from all the rooms. Close to the beach. Within walking distance of the town centre. Upvc double glazing. Energy Efficiency Rating =31

GUIDE PRICE: £45,000

Tywyn 01654 710388

15 Glan Yr Afon, Berriew, Welshpool

A semi-detached House situated in a cul-de-sac within a popular village location. Sitting & Living rooms, Kitchen, Utility & Separate W.C. Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Oil Fired Heating. Double Glazed. In need of internal upgrading. Energy efficiency rating = TBC

GUIDE PRICE: £125,000

Welshpool Office 01938 554818


Heddwch, Lodge 31, Panteidal, Aberdyfi

South facing slopes of Dyfi Estuary. Refurbished, well maintained, spacious accommodation. Double aspect views to South and East. Good position with easy access and privacy. Three bedrooms to include contents. Energy Efficiency Rating = 53.

GUIDE PRICE: £30,000

Tywyn 01654 710388


Teglys, Troedyrallt, Llanidloes

Semi detached house in cul de sac. Convenient access to town centre amenities. Double glazed. Gas central heating. Lounge, dining room, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, separate wc. Front and rear gardens. Energy Efficiency Rating = 64

GUIDE PRICE: £145,000

Llanidloes Office 01686 412567


Methodist Chapel, Stepside, Newtown

Former Methodist Chapel. Situated in the small village of Stepside, Approx 2 miles from Newtown. Spacious Chapel Room, Lobby, Kitchen, Toilet. Traditional brick, render & slate construction. Potential for conversion (subject to planning consent).

GUIDE PRICE: £70,000

Newtown Office 01686 626160


Treetops, Brynfa, Welshpool

Detached 3 Bedroom Bungalow. In need of modernisation. Living Room, Kitchen/Diner. Shower Room. Garage, Workshop and WC. Plot extends to approx 0.51 acres. Gas CH, D/G. Views over Severn Valley & Welshpool. EPC Rating = 61

GUIDE PRICE: £170,000 to £180,000

Welshpool Office 01938 554818


Building Plot, Pantycrug Aberystwyth

Freehold building plot, measurements TBC, 7 miles from the University and noted coastal town of Aberystwyth with Outline Planning Consent for construction of a superior detached single dwelling. Subject to 106 Affordable Discount Agreement.

GUIDE PRICE: £40,000 to £50,000

Aberystwyth Office 01970 625020

Aberystwyth 01970 625020
 Llanidloes 01686 412567
 Machynlleth 01654 702472

Newtown 01686 626160
 Oswestry 01691 679595
 Shrewsbury 01743 247755

Tywyn 01654 710388
 Welshpool 01938 554818
 Aberdyfi (window display)

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- Workshop
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- Neighbouring shops and school
- EPC Band - E

JJD857

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- Four Bed. Edwardian House
- Exceptionally Well Appointed
- GFCH & UPVC DG
- Cloakroom
- Three Reception
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Sewing Room
- Good Sized Garden
- Garaging & Driveway
- EPC Band - D

JJD854

£269,950

GOBOWEN



- Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Living Room
- Dining Room
- Extended Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Ample Car Parking
- Large rear Garden
- Decked Patio/BBQ Area
- EPC Band - F

JJD840

OFFERS ON £154,950

OSWESTRY



- Buy To Let/F T Buyers
- GFCH
- Entrance Hall
- Sitting Room
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Two Bedrooms
- Parking
- Front And rear Gardens
- EPC Band - D

JJD845

NO CHAIN £104,950

OSWESTRY



- Victorian End Terrace House
- GFCH
- Two Reception Rooms
- Dining Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms And Loft Room
- Modern Bathroom
- Rear Garden
- Walking Distance Of Town & Woodside School
- EPC Band - E

JJD853

£135,000

PANT, NR. OSWESTRY



- Oil Fired Central Heating
- Entrance Porch
- Lounge/Dining Room
- Breakfast/Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms
- Enclosed Front Garden
- Parking for 4/5 cars
- Workshop
- Includes B/Plot with Full P/P for Dwelling
- EPC Band F

JJD807

GUIDE PRICE £350,000

OSWESTRY



- GFCH & UPVC DG
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Cloakroom
- Four Double Bedrooms
- Modern Bathroom
- Attractive Private Garden
- Garaging & Parking Area
- Level Walking Distance Of Town
- EPC Band - D

JJD849

£199,500

PANT



- Individually designed highly appointed three bed detached house
- O/F C/H, D/G
- Lounge & Study
- Breakfast Kitchen & Utility
- Sun Room
- Bathroom & En-Suite
- Children's Play Room/Fourth Bedroom
- Garage & Car Parking
- Extensive Views
- EPC Band C

JJD782

£420,000

OSWESTRY



- Modern Detached Bungalow
- GFCH & D/G
- Completely Redecorated
- New Carpets
- New Kitchen And Bathroom
- Lounge
- Two Bedrooms
- Garage And Parking
- Front And Rear Gardens
- EPC Band D

JJD814

NO CHAIN. £143,000

OSWESTRY - TO LET



- Excellent retail shop premises
- Overall frontage - 15 ft.
- Sales Area - 201 sq. ft.
- Includes sink area and outside toilet
- Occupying busy trading position
- Short distance from prime shopping area
- EPC Band - F

JJD070

PER WEEK £45

LLANMYNECH



- Fully Equipped Sales Office
- 100 Ft. Wide Concrete Forecourt
- Toilet
- Fronting Onto Busy A483
- Recently Used For Car Sales
- Lands Itself To Other Uses

JJD832

£47,500

OSWESTRY - BUILDING PLOT



- Good sized building plot
- Approx. 720 sq. metres
- Sought after residential area
- P/permission for detached bungalow with double Garage
- Reasonable level walking distance of Town
- We understand all mains services are available to site

JJD787

£154,750

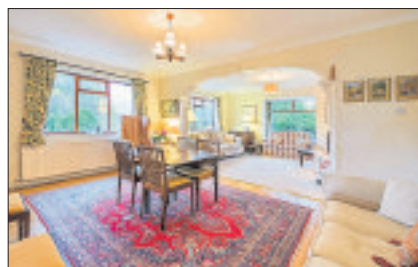
OSWESTRY (01691) 653437 - (01691) 680212





Property in town offers spacious accommodation

7a Bridge Street in Llanfyllin comprises a period three storey terraced town house of pleasant rendered elevations under a pitched slated roof. The property is on the market through Halls with offers in the region of £115,000. It offers spacious and adaptable accommodation which provides for a sitting room with open fire-place, fitted kitchen, cellar, first floor landing, bedroom, bathroom and a further two bedrooms on the second floor. Outside to the rear of the property are the gardens comprising a concrete patio area with herbaceous and shrub flowerbeds. Contact Halls on 01938 555552 for more details.



Well appointed property is located in popular village

Woodhead Estates are delighted to present this exciting opportunity to purchase a spacious four bedroom detached dormer bungalow with attached cottage industry-size business opportunity. As a most well-appointed property and located in the popular village of Treflach, Craig-y-Don has much to commend it, offering light and spacious accommodation over two floors. The annexe is currently set-up as a highly successful speciality food-production business which is available to purchase under separate negotiation. Offers in region of £339,950. Contact Woodhead Estates on 01691 680044 for more details.



Property in town offers good size bedrooms

This well presented two bedroom semi-detached house benefits from gas central heating and Upvc double glazed windows throughout. The property at 2 Sycamore Drive, Chirk, is on the market with Town & Country for £115,000. The ground floor internal accommodation briefly comprises a hallway, lounge and a fitted kitchen/diner. On the first floor there are two good size bedrooms and a family bathroom. To the outside a driveway offers ample off road parking. The front and rear gardens are principally laid to lawn. Contact Town & Country on 01691 679631 for more details.



Family house has village amenities nearby

A well presented semi detached house within walking distance of the village amenities, 157 Heritage Way at Llanymynech is on the market for £136,950 with JJ Dell & Co. The property is a modern semi-detached house and accommodation downstairs comprises entrance hall, cloakroom, living room, a dining room and kitchen. Upstairs there are three bedrooms, one which is ensuite, and a bathroom. Outside there is a parking area at the front for two cars and an enclosed rear garden. Contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 or 01691 680212 for more details.





Village home with great countryside views

A beautifully situated three-bedroom detached house with large gardens and panoramic rural views is on the market with Woodhead Estates.

Silverdale, Springbank Close, on the edge of Trefonen, includes an entrance hall, sitting room with multi-fuel burner, living room with open fireplace, kitchen/diner, inner hall, utility/laundry room, double glazing, oil-fired central heating, off road parking, workshop, garage and extensive gardens. Offers in region of £309,950 – call Woodhead Estates on 01691 680044 or visit www.woodheadestates.com to find out more.



Spacious two-bed bungalow has sun room

This spacious two-bedroom detached bungalow 19 Aston Way, Oswestry, is on the market for £136,000. It is in an established residential location, conveniently located for the shopping facilities and amenities of the town. Accommodation briefly comprises; hallway, lounge/diner, kitchen/breakfast room, inner hall, two bedrooms and a bathroom. At the front is a gravelled area with a driveway allowing off road parking and a single garage. To the rear of the property is a sun room plus a low maintenance gravelled garden with shrubs. There is no upward chain. Contact Town and Country Property Services on 01691 679631.



OSWESTRY & BORDER
CHRONICLE



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CONTACT THE CHRONICLE ON 01691 668094



Evie-Lou wanted to raise as much money as she could for her sister



Little Evie-Lou steps out for her sister Emilie's funding appeal on Saturday



The seven-year-old girl walked a mile for the appeal



Youngsters of all ages turned out on Saturday for the big walk to support Emilie Harrington's appeal

Brave Evie-Lou backs cash bid

A GIRL who needed a wheelchair to get around only two years ago has walked a mile to raise money for her sister to have a vital operation.

Seven-year-old Evie-Lou Harrington, from Llangynog, underwent a life changing operation in America in 2013 to ease the symptoms of her cerebral palsy.

Now able to walk with the use of a frame Evie-Lou has raised more than £3,000 by completing a sponsored walk at Lake Vyrnwy's dam.

Evie-Lou was joined by around 35 people on the walk, which took place on Saturday, as she looks to raise money towards the £60,000 needed for her sister, nine-year-old Emilie to undergo the same operation – Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy.

Evie-Lou's mum, Donna, said the family were "incredibly proud" of her daughter's efforts as she pushed herself to complete the mile.

She said: "We are extremely proud. It was not an easy challenge for her, she had to push herself but she did really well and we are incredibly proud of her."

Mrs Harrington explained that the walk had

Report by Dominic Robertson

been an emotional experience for her daughter, who was exhausted from her exertions by the time she reached the finish.

She said: "She was nervous on the morning but we plodded along, had a few stops here and there but she kept going, she did really well."

"Everyone was cheering her on as she got to the finish, and there was just a wonderful smile on her face. She kept going, she was so determined."

"We got to the cafe at the end and just broke down in tears so it was a bit of an emotional moment at the end."

Mrs Harrington thanked all those who have supported the fundraising so far, saying the family has been amazed at the backing they have received.

She said: "We have been overwhelmed with the generosity of people who have sponsored Evie. It is amazing."

More details about the walk are available on the Emilie's Leap of Faith Facebook page and people can donate to the cause by visiting www.justgiving.com/evie1mileforemiliefaith/



Evie-Lou and Emilie were joined by dozens of supporters



The fundraisers get into their stride for the appeal



There was plenty of support for young Evie-Lou during the challenge



CONTACT THE CHRONICLE ON 01691 668094



Andy Rimmer with Theo Wood learning to draw comics at Gobowen



There was hula hooping fun at Gobowen during the half term



Drawing proved popular in St Martins during half term

Children treated to games

Report by Sue Austin

YOUNGSTERS in Oswestry and the surrounding villages were kept active and creative during the half-term holiday thanks to a variety of events.

Play schemes were staged in St Martins, Weston Rhyn and Gobowen to keep youngsters entertained. Funding for the schemes was provided by the Three Parishes Big Local lottery programme.

Children and young people from the area were invited to go along and try their hand at street dance, hula hooping, comic and cartoon drawing and geocaching.

The villages were awarded the £1 million in 2010 and extensive consultation on how the money should best be spent has taken place ever since. That money is beginning to be used and young people are among the first to benefit from the lottery boost. Meanwhile an Oswestry church was packed to the rafters during half-term. The Holy Trinity Church jungle-themed half-term holiday club proved very popular once again, attracting more than 100 children every day.

Volunteers had worked for two days to get the church ready, draping cargo netting from the roof, putting up trees and animals around the main hall and building a wood and straw hut. During the week children were introduced to colourful characters like explorer and storyteller Phil Grylls, Lucy the Lighthouse, and Monkey and Frog.

Mark Addison, youth and families minister at Holy Trinity Church, said: "It took two days to transform the church and drape the netting along the entire church building."

"Lots of work was done before as well – some people had been painting since Christmas to get all the props ready. The theme for the week was Jungle Explorers and we've been looking at true tree stories from the Bible like Noah's ark, how Zaccheus climbed a tree to see Jesus, and the tree that Jesus died on."



Archie Bowen and Rachael Whitehead enjoy the half term fun at the St Martins Centre



Ilsa Rothrea at the Holy Trinity Church jungle fun day in Oswestry



Lucy Antelo, Ilsa Rothrea and Tom Hebson have fun



There was hula hooping fun at the St Martins Centre

Fun day to be staged at care home for Africa aid

A CARE home will host a fun day this Easter to raise vital funds to ship much needed blankets to orphaned children and other vulnerable people in Africa.

Funds raised at the event at New Fairholme in Shrewsbury Road, Oswestry on April 4 will pay for the transportation of hundreds of blankets, created by residents of the home and others run by Coverage Care through its 'Knit a Square for Malawi' project.

The fun day will run from 10am to 3pm and includes a blind auction, face painting, stalls, raffle and tombola, refreshments, and a knit and natter session. The Easter Bunny will also put in a special appearance.

Coverage Care's Kay Lennox, who has spearheaded the Knit a Square for Malawi project, said: "We would appeal to as many people as possible to support the fun day so we can raise as much money as possible to transport the blankets."

"Residents at our 15 homes have created more than 8,000 squares so far that have been knitted into blankets. We need now to raise funds to enable us to get these lovingly made blankets to the children and other vulnerable people who are in desperate need."

Gaynor Cook, one of the original founders of the charity African Vision Malawi that will distribute the blankets, will open the event. Sarah Parsloe, former country manager for African Vision Malawi, who recently spent three years in Malawi managing the charity's projects, will join her.

For more information about African Vision Malawi, formerly known as the Landirani Trust, and to donate visit www.africanvision.org.uk

Town's meal service is saved by charity link-up

Report by Pam Kingsley

AN under-threat meals on wheels service in Llanfyllin has been saved after a charity stepped in to take over the running.

Volunteers belonging to Mencap have agreed to take on the delivery of hot meals which were due to finish as part of budget cuts by Powys County Council.

Mencap will take on the management of the service on a three-month trial starting from April 1. In a letter sent to Llanfyllin Town Council, June Stacey, who runs the Llanfyllin branch of Mencap, said: "We will do a three month trial from April 1, which would mean delivering the first meals on April 2 and continuing on Tuesdays and Thursdays to the four people already in receipt of meals."

"Then if this is successful we can extend that service to other people."

"As Mencap is a registered charity we have all our public liability insurance in place already and all our staff have DAB checks. If any of the adults with learning disabilities that we work with help us and would need a DAB check we can facilitate that."

The charity will send two people with each meal delivered and could also include some of its clients who have learning disabilities on the rota.

Town clerk Jonathan Bellingham said: "They want these people to be involved in the community. Whenever they go out on a delivery there will also be two adults as well."

"Any volunteers currently helping with deliveries who want to continue will be able to transfer to Mencap's service."

Fun is over on the county playbus



The playbus has entertained many children from around Shropshire

IT has brought fun to children throughout Shropshire as well as a few hours' welcome relief for harassed parents.

But now, after about 30 years, the Shropshire Playbus is being axed because it was no longer "financially viable".

Bosses say it has been challenging

to fund the £45,000 a year needed to run the operation.

The Shropshire Playbus Association said it reluctantly made its decision to close at its recent annual meeting. Peter Dunhill, a founder member of the association and current treasurer, said: "After nearly 30 years and four differently designed

double decker buses, the Shropshire Playbus Association has decided that the wheels on the bus are finally going to have to stop going round and round Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin." A farewell playbus session will be held on April 2 at Buttercup Lodge in Corndon Crescent, Sundorne, Shrewsbury, from 1pm.

Council's dismay over parking fee

ORGANISERS of two major events which bring hundreds of people to a town in Mid Wales have been told they will have to pay £200 a day to use the town's car park.

The ruling by Powys Council Council has been met with disbelief by Welshpool Town Council.

It wants the county council to rethink its policy for events that bring money into the local towns.

The British Rally Championship Plains Rally is due to descend on Welshpool in May while the Making Waves Festival will be held throughout 2015 to promote the Montgomery Canal. Both applied to use space on the main car park, but have been told they will have to pay £200 a day.

Town Councillor Stephen Kaye said as a local businessman he could not believe the attitude of Powys County Council. Councillor Ann Holloway, town and county councillor, said she was disgusted at the news, while Councillor Phil Pritchard said he would be raising the issue with Powys County Council.

By-election held to fill vacancy

A BY-ELECTION will be held for a vacant seat on Oswestry Town Council later this month.

The election will be staged on March 19.

The Carreg Llwyd ward seat has become vacant following the resignation of long serving Oswestry councillor Bill Benyon.

Five candidates are standing for the seat. Candidates who will be standing in the election are Mike Coppock (Independent), Steven Mason (Conservative), Rosie Radford (Independent), Linda Roberts, and Christopher Wood (Green).



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Casualty
9.30pm
Lily tries to persuade a woman to be honest with her husband by admitting she doesn't want to continue with IVF treatment – although when the doctor's own exhaustion begins to catch up with her, it seems she is not being entirely truthful to herself. Meanwhile Dixie is forced to give Iain a verbal warning.



How We Got to Now with Steven Johnson
7.30pm
The American science author explores the impact on the modern world of technological innovations in lighting, including Edison's role in the development of the electric bulb. Steven also reveals how a French scientist accidentally discovered how to create neon light.



The Jonathan Ross Show
9.55pm
The host welcomes another batch of celebrity guests to his famous green room, before subjecting them to a no-holds-barred bout of questioning. Tonight, Jonathan welcomes actor Damian Lewis, and music legend Bryan Ferry, who talks about his forthcoming tour before performing in the studio.



Crufts 2015
7pm
Clare Balding presents highlights from the third and penultimate day of the world's largest dog show, held at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham. There's also a special report from Noel Fitzpatrick, known for his pioneering work as seen in Channel 4 series The Supervet.



Law & Order: Special Victims Unit
10pm
Saliva from a tiger is discovered on a murdered model, leading the detectives on the hunt for a former people trafficker who is now involved in the exotic animal trade. Crime drama, guest starring Caitlin Fitzgerald and Outkast singer Antwan Andre Patton.

BBC1	
6.00	Breakfast.
10.00	Saturday Kitchen Live. James Martin is joined by chefs Vivek Singh and Stephen Terry, and singer Simon Webbe faces his food heaven or hell.
11.30	Mary Berry Cooks. The food writer demonstrates recipes for the perfect Sunday lunch, preparing a main course of slow-roasted shoulder of lamb with rosemary, and plum tarte Tatin for dessert. (R)
12.00	BBC News; Weather.
12.10	Football Focus. Dan Walker and guests are at Villa Park to look ahead to the weekend's football, which includes the sixth round of the FA Cup, with Manchester United v Arsenal among the fixtures.
1.00	Live Davis Cup Tennis. Great Britain v USA. Sue Barker presents coverage of the second day of the World Group first-round match at the Emirates Arena in Glasgow, featuring the doubles rubber.
4.30	Final Score. Jason Mohammad presents a round-up of this afternoon's results from the Football League and Scotland, plus news from Queens Park Rangers v Tottenham Hotspur in the Premier League.
5.00	BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
5.20	Match of the Day Live. Aston Villa v West Bromwich Albion (Kick-off 5.30pm). Gary Lineker presents all the action from Villa Park, where the second of the FA Cup sixth-round fixtures takes place.
7.30	The Voice UK. As the battle rounds continue, the contestants aim to secure their place in the next stage of the singing competition, with the coaches deciding who to keep and who to eliminate.
9.30	Casualty. Lily tries to persuade a woman to be honest with her husband about starting a family. Rita helps a man change his stubborn attitude and Dixie gives Iain a verbal warning.
10.15	The National Lottery Live. Gaby Roslin is joined by comedian and actor Matt Lucas, who pushes the buttons to reveal the Lotto and Thunderball numbers.
10.25	BBC News; Weather.
10.45	Match of the Day. Highlights of this weekend's only Premier League encounter, which saw Queens Park Rangers host Tottenham Hotspur at Loftus Road.
11.15	Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights. Highlights of the first two sixth-round matches, as Bradford City faced Reading at Valley Parade and Aston Villa welcomed West Bromwich Albion to Villa Park; National Lottery Update.
11.55	The Football League Show. Manish Bhasin presents highlights and all the goals from the latest fixtures in the Championship, League One and League Two, including Ipswich Town v Brentford.
1.15	FILM: Charlie & Boots (2009). A man tries to rebuild his relationship with his widowed father by taking him on a 3,000-mile road trip around Australia. Comedy drama, starring Paul Hogan.
2.50	Weather for the Week Ahead.
2.55	BBC News.

BBC2	
7.30	FA Cup Rewind: Quarter Final Classics. A look back at memorable sixth-round goals and upsets.
8.30	Live Athletics: European Indoor Championships. The opening session on day three of the meeting from the O2 Arena in Prague, Czech Republic, where disciplines include the opening rounds of the men's and women's 60m and 1500m. Coverage continues at 4.30pm.
11.30	Animal Park. A hidden camera records feeding time for the vultures. (R)
12.00	A Taste of Britain. From the Jurassic Coast of West Dorset.
12.30	James Martin's Food Map of Britain. The chef explores the West Country. (R)
12.40	Noel Coward: Talking Pictures. A retrospective look at the television appearances made by Noel Coward.
1.10	FILM: In Which We Serve (1942). The survivors of a maritime disaster recall their adventures as they cling to the wreckage. Second World War drama, starring Noel Coward, John Mills and Richard Attenborough.
3.00	The Great British Sewing Bee. The five semi-finalists have to work with tricky and technical fabrics. (R)
4.00	Gardeners' World. Joe Swift reveals how to make the most of a small garden. (R)
4.30	Live Athletics: European Indoor Championships. The concluding session on day three of the meeting from the O2 Arena in Prague, Czech Republic, where disciplines include the finals of the men's and women's 400m and 3,000m.
7.30	How We Got to Now with Steven Johnson. The American science author explores the impact on the modern world of technological innovations in lighting, including Edison's role in the development of the electric bulb.
8.30	Dad's Army. Mainwaring and the platoon try to capture three German airmen who have landed in a lake after bailing out and intend to stay in their dinghy until nightfall. (R)
9.00	Qi. Josh Widdicombe, Sue Perkins and Frank Skinner join regular panellist Alan Davies as host Stephen Fry asks a range of questions about levity, levitation and lights. (R)
9.30	Reginald D Hunter's Songs of the South. The comedian concludes his trip through the American South by exploring the musical heritage of Mississippi and Louisiana, ending his journey in New Orleans. Last in the series.
10.30	FILM: Good Vibrations (2012). Premiere. A record shop owner in 1970s Belfast becomes a key figure in the underground punk scene during the Troubles. Fact-based drama, starring Richard Dormer and Jodie Whittaker.
12.05	FILM: Cross of Iron (1977). A German sergeant on the Russian front in 1943 is sickened by an officer who risks men's lives for his own glory. Second World War drama, with James Coburn and Maximilian Schell.
2.15	This is BBC2. Preview of upcoming programmes from BBC2.

ITV	
6.00	CITV: Bottom Knockers Street 6.10 Bottom Knockers Street 6.20 Bottom Knockers Street 6.35 Dino Dan 6.45 Dino Dan 7.00 Canimals 7.10 Sooty 7.25 Signed Stories: Share a Story
7.30	Scrambled!: Scrambled! Two hours of children's fun.
7.35	Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. Animated comedy. (R)
7.50	Scrambled!: Adventure Time.
8.30	Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. Cartoon about a mischievous youngster.
8.50	Scrambled!: Hulk and the Agents of Smash. Animation based on the superhero character.
9.25	The Jeremy Kyle Show. Guests air their differences. (R)
10.20	The Jeremy Kyle Show. Guests air their differences. (R)
11.25	The Jeremy Kyle Show. Guests air their differences. (R)
12.25	ITV News and Weather; Weather.
12.35	The Jeremy Kyle Show. Guests air their differences. (R)
1.35	Tippling Point. Quiz show, hosted by Ben Shephard. (R)
2.35	Doc Martin. Pauline finds out about Martin's imminent departure to London. (R)
3.35	Secrets from the Sky. Aerial views of heritage sites across Britain. (R)
4.05	Off Their Rockers. Mo wreaks havoc on his mobility scooter. (R)
4.35	Big Star's Little Star. With Joe Swash, Sharon Davies and Duncan Bannatyne. (R)
5.35	ITV News Central; Weather.
5.45	ITV News and Weather.
6.00	You've Been Framed! Favourites. Harry Hill narrates a selection of comical clips, featuring Annette Bening and Kim Jong-il lookalikes, below-the-belt mishaps, mischief and painful-looking accidents. (R)
7.00	Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway. The Georgie duo take control of Jeremy Kyle in I'm a Celebrity Get Out of Me Earl, and Little Ant and Dec meet Take That. Rob Brydon is this week's celebrity guest announcer.
8.25	Take Me Out. Hotel receptionist Leslie, plumber Alan, construction worker Cole and model Pete each try to win a date with one of 30 single women. Paddy McGuinness hosts. Last in the series.
9.55	The Jonathan Ross Show. The host welcomes actor Damian Lewis (Homeland, Wolf Hall), and music legend Bryan Ferry, who performs in the studio.
10.55	ITV News and Weather; Weather.
11.15	FILM: Play Misty for Me (1971). A DJ revives his relationship with an old flame, driving an obsessive fan mad with jealousy. Psychological thriller, directed by and starring Clint Eastwood, with Jessica Walter.
1.10	Jackpot247. Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.00	The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. The host takes his successful talk show stateside. (R)
3.45	ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4	
6.00	How I Met Your Mother. Ted's friends try to help him impress a woman.
6.30	How I Met Your Mother. Barney tries to impress a barmaid who dislikes men wearing suits.
6.55	Trans World Sport. Including an interview with Kaka.
7.55	The Morning Line. A look ahead to today's racing and Cheltenham Festival.
9.00	Everybody Loves Raymond. Debra gets a job. (R)
9.30	Everybody Loves Raymond. Debra and Ray vow to change their ways. (R)
10.00	Everybody Loves Raymond. Robert takes Debra out dancing. (R)
10.30	Frasier. Part two of two. Lilith's presence causes Frasier to make a fool of himself. (R)
11.00	Frasier. The shrink bumps into a former friend of Martin's. (R)
11.30	The Big Bang Theory. Sheldon decides to make new friends. (R)
12.00	The Big Bang Theory. Priya asks Leonard to spend less time with Penny. (R)
12.30	The Big Bang Theory. Sheldon's online gaming account is hacked. (R)
1.00	Rude(ish) Tube. New series. Videos include a police chase in a living room.
1.30	Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Sandown Park and Wolverhampton.
4.10	Come Dine with Me. Jackie Critten hosts the first dinner party in Grimsby. (R)
4.45	Come Dine with Me. Phil Cowper hosts the second dinner party in Grimsby. (R)
5.15	Come Dine with Me. Glamorous hostess Shanelle Cutsforth throws the third in a week of dinner parties in Grimsby, Lincolnshire. (R)
5.50	Come Dine with Me. Chris Wood, the self-confessed 'campest straight man in the world' hosts the fourth and final dinner party in Grimsby, Lincolnshire, and the winner is revealed. (R)
6.15	The Simpsons. A romantic evening at the ice-rink leads to Homer and Marge heading for the Winter Olympics to play for a curling team, while Bart befriends Canada's equivalent of Milhouse. (R)
6.40	Channel 4 News.
7.00	Crufts 2015. Clare Balding presents highlights from the third day of the dog show held at the NEC in Birmingham.
9.00	FILM: Salt (2010). A CIA agent goes on the run after she is accused of being a sleeper assassin sent to murder the Russian president. Action thriller, starring Angelina Jolie and Liev Schreiber.
11.00	FILM: Heartbreakers (2001). A mother and daughter con rich bachelors out of a fortune, but their plans are threatened when the daughter falls in love. Comedy, with Sigourney Weaver and Jennifer Love Hewitt.
1.20	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. (R)
2.10	Hollyoaks. Omnibus. Nancy's behaviour sparks an outburst from a village resident. (R)
4.15	Hugh's 3 Good Things: Best Bites. (R)
4.30	Double Your House for Half the Money. (R)
5.25	Location, Location, Location. (R)

Channel 5	
6.00	Milkshake! Peppa Pig 6.05 Bananas in Pyjamas 6.20 Angelina Ballerina 6.30 Pip Ahoy! 6.45 The Mr Men Show 6.55 Chloe's Closet 7.05 Olly the Little White Van 7.15 Make Way for Noddy 7.25 Paw Patrol 7.35 Roary the Racing Car 7.45 Little Princess 8.00 Wanda and the Alien 8.10 Zack and Quack 8.30 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 8.45 Jelly Jamm 9.00 LazyTown 9.30 Dora and Friends
10.00	SpongeBob SquarePants.
10.35	Chinese Food in Minutes. (R)
10.50	The Hotel Inspector. Improving the fortunes of the Swan Hotel in Harleston, Norfolk. (R)
11.45	The Hotel Inspector. (R)
12.40	GPs: Behind Closed Doors. Patients who have sought out alternative treatments. (R)
1.35	Cowboy Builders. Dominic Littlewood revisits a Caerphilly couple he helped in 2012. (R)
2.35	Missing: Flight MH370 One Year On. Experts discuss the continuing search for the Malaysia Airlines Boeing 777. (R)
3.35	FILM: Monte Walsh (1970). Western, starring Lee Marvin.
5.30	5 News Weekend.
5.40	FILM: Columbo: Candidate for Crime (1973). Detective drama, starring Peter Falk.
7.20	NCIS. Part two of two. Tony reviews satellite footage of the Middle East and spots Kersey with insurgents, and Abby creates a 3D computer model of the attack that injured Joe Westcott. (R)
8.05	NCIS. The murder of a marine during a cruise is investigated by the agents, who discover the victim had turned his back on a life of privilege to join the military. (R)
9.00	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. A woman in rehab for drug and alcohol addiction is found dead in the pool of an abandoned house, but evidence suggests she was killed in the clinic and her body was then moved.
10.00	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. Saliva from a tiger is discovered on a murdered model, leading the detectives on the hunt for a former people trafficker who is now involved in the exotic animal trade. (R)
10.55	Law & Order. An investigation into a hit-and-run leads to a property scam, but the team's undercover work takes a surprising twist that pits McCoy against the US Attorney's office. Previously seen on 5USA.
11.50	True Crimes: The First 72 Hours. Winnipeg police are baffled by a bank robber who does not fit the usual profile of a thief, and he causes more confusion by continuing his cross-country larceny spree in Vancouver. (R)
12.15	SuperCasino.
3.10	10,000 BC. (R)
4.00	Benefits Britain: Life on the Dole. (R)
4.50	Make It Big. (R)
5.15	Angels of Jarm. (R)
5.20	Angels of Jarm. (R)
5.30	Angels of Jarm. (R)
5.40	Roary the Racing Car. (R)
5.50	Roary the Racing Car. (R)



Countryfile

7pm

The team is in rural Cheshire, where Matt Baker joins an agricultural student working on his father's farm and Ellie Harrison discovers what life was like for Victorian apprentices. Plus, Tom Heap explores the financial practicalities of buying a home in the countryside. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.



Top Gear

8pm

James May straps into a highly tuned hatchback as he competes in a world rallycross race. Jeremy Clarkson puts the latest Jaguar F-type R and Eagle's modernised E-type the Low Drag GT through their paces, while Richard Hammond is in Spain to test the new version of the Mazda MX-5.



All Star Family Fortunes

8pm

Sam Bailey and Jamelia are joined by their families to answer a series of questions based on a survey of 100 members of the public. The winning team then goes on to the Big Money round, where a jackpot of £30,000 can be won for charity. Vernon Kay hosts the long-running game show.



Indian Summers

9pm

There's much excitement in Simla as the Viceroy arrives for the first of his summer visits. Ian is forced to grow up quickly when he receives sad news about his uncle, while Eugene threatens to return to Chicago with Madeleine. Sarah receives information from England that sheds light on Alice's mysterious past.



The Hotel Inspector

11am

Alex Polizzi sets out to improve the fortunes of the Glangrwyney Court guest house in the Black Mountains, Powys. Despite its five-star rating and reasonable occupancy rate, owners Christina and Warrick Jackson reveal they are rapidly losing money. Can Alex find a solution to the owners' problems?

BBC1

- 6.00 Breakfast.**
- 7.45 Match of the Day.** Highlights of Queens Park Rangers v Tottenham Hotspur. (R)
- 8.20 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights.** Highlights of the first two sixth-round matches, as Bradford City faced Reading at Valley Parade and Aston Villa welcomed West Bromwich Albion to Villa Park. (R)
- 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show.**
- 10.00 The Big Questions.** Nicky Campbell visits Harris Academy, Peckham, to present moral and religious discussions on topical issues.
- 11.00 Sunday Politics.** The week's events at Westminster, presented by Andrew Neil. Including a regional round-up.
- 12.15 BBC News.**
- 12.25 Songs of Praise.**
- 1.00 Live Davis Cup Tennis.** Great Britain v USA. Sue Barker presents coverage of the final day of the World Group first-round match at the Emirates Arena in Glasgow, featuring the concluding singles rubbers.
- 3.35 Bargain Hunt.** From Swinderby, near Lincoln. (R)
- 4.05 Escape to the Country.** Jules Hudson helps a retired baptist minister and his charity-worker wife find a rural retreat in Somerset on a £500,000 budget. (R)
- 4.50 Pointless Celebrities.** With famous faces from the world of theatre – Simon Callow, Imogen Stubbs, Lysette Anthony, Christopher Timothy, Gwen Taylor, Keith Barron, Claire Sweeney and Simon Shepherd. (R)
- 5.35 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.**
- 6.00 The Big Painting Challenge.** The amateur artists visit Blenheim Palace, where they capture the building on canvas, as well as a still life of personal items and a quick sketch of a giant chess board.
- 7.00 Countryfile.** The team is in rural Cheshire, where Matt Baker finds out about agricultural apprentices, joining a student from Reaseheath College as he puts his learning into practice on his father's busy farm. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.
- 8.00 Call the Midwife.** Trixie and Sister Mary Cynthia team up to support a deaf mother-to-be, while a case of morning sickness proves more serious than initially suspected. Last in the series.
- 9.00 Poldark.** New series. Period drama about a young aristocrat who returns from the battlefield to find his estate in ruins and his sweetheart engaged to another man. Aidan Turner stars.
- 10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.**
- 10.30 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights.** Action from the third match in the FA Cup sixth round, as Liverpool faced Blackburn Rovers at Anfield, with a semi-final place at stake.
- 11.05 The Apprentice USA.** In an extended edition featuring two tasks, the teams have to promote and sell tickets to a live comedy event, and then film a 60-second advertisement for a new car safety device.
- 1.10 Weather for the Week Ahead.**
- 1.15 BBC News.**

BBC2

- 6.10 The Football League Show.** Highlights of the latest games in the Championship, League One and League Two. (R)
- 7.30 Gardeners' World.** Joe Swift reveals how to make the most of a small garden. (R)
- 8.00 Countryfile.** The team visits Pembrokeshire to mark St David's Day. (R)
- 9.00 FA Cup Rewind: Sixth-Round Classics.** A look back at memorable sixth-round goals and upsets.
- 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites.** Highlights of the series.
- 11.30 The Great Comic Relief Bake Off.** Victoria Wood, Chris Moyles, Alexa Chung and Kayvan Novak compete. Last in the series. (R)
- 12.30 A Taste of Britain.** Janet Street-Porter and Brian Turner explore North Yorkshire.
- 1.00 A Taste of Britain.** Local delicacies, dishes, and recipes from the Thames area. **Weather for the Week Ahead.**
- 1.30 Live Athletics: European Indoor Championships.** The final day of the meeting from the O2 Arena in Prague, Czech Republic.
- 5.35 Super-Powered Owls: Natural World.** An investigation into how the birds hunt in the dark and why they are able to fly so quietly, getting an insight into their world through the eyes of two barn owl chicks. (R)
- 6.35 Pempidou.** The penniless aristocrat thinks he has won the lottery, but it turns out that it his butler Hove who has actually hit the jackpot. Comedy, starring Matt Lucas.
- 7.00 The Fifteen Billion Pound Railway.** The work of engineers building 10 new stations as part of the Crossrail train line linking east and west London, including a cathedral-sized one at Canary Wharf. Last in the series. (R)
- 8.00 Top Gear.** James May competes in a world rallycross race and Richard Hammond tests the new version of the Mazda MX-5. Plus, Nicholas Hoult is the Star in the Reasonably Priced Car.
- 9.00 Let's Play Darts for Comic Relief.** The two remaining celebrities and their professional partners go head to head for the title at the Lakeside Country Club in Frimley Green, Surrey. Last in the series.
- 10.05 The Revolution Will Be Televised.** First of two compilations from the first three series of the sketch show lampooning arrogance, hypocrisy and greed in public life, starring Heydon Prowse and Jolyon Rubinstein.
- 10.35 FILM: The Hunter (2011).** Premiere. A mercenary is hired by a mysterious company to track down and kill the supposedly extinct Tasmanian tiger. Drama, starring Willem Dafoe, Frances O'Connor and Sam Neill.
- 12.10 FILM: Howl (2010).** Fact-based drama, starring James Franco.
- 1.30 Sign Zone: Countryfile.** (R)
- 2.25 Sign Zone: Holby City.** Harry confronts his feelings for Mary-Claire. (R)
- 3.25 This Is BBC2.**

ITV

- 6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street 6.10 Bottom Knocker Street 6.20 Bottom Knocker Street 6.35 Dino Dan 6.45 Dino Dan 7.00 Animals 7.10 Story 7.25 Signed Stories: Share a Story**
- 7.30 Scrambled!: Scrambled!** Two hours of children's fun.
- 7.35 Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters.** Animated comedy. (R)
- 7.50 Scrambled!: Ultimate Spider-Man.** Superhero adventures.
- 8.30 Scrambled!: Horrid Henry.** Cartoon about a mischievous youngster.
- 8.50 Scrambled!: Deadline Stories.** Chilling tales for younger viewers. (R)
- 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)
- 10.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)
- 11.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)
- 12.35 ITV News and Weather; Weather.**
- 12.40 Murder, She Wrote.** Jessica investigates murder in the music industry. (R)
- 1.40 River Monsters.** A feared marine creature in Central America. (R)
- 2.40 Catchphrase.** Guessing game, hosted by Stephen Mulhern. (R)
- 3.25 FILM: The Living Daylights (1987).** James Bond adventure, starring Timothy Dalton.
- 6.00 ITV News Central; Weather.**
- 6.15 ITV News and Weather.**
- 6.30 The Chase: Celebrity Special.** Former England cricket captain Michael Vaughan, presenter Anna Richardson, bushcraft expert Ray Mears and Coronation Street actress Jane Danson play for charity. Last in the series.
- 7.30 Off Their Rockers.** A foul-mouthed nun runs amok, Seb gets advice on attending a naturist wedding and Dave gives a member of the public his lucky pants. Irrelevant hidden-camera show in which senior citizens play pranks on the streets of Britain.
- 8.00 All Star Family Fortunes.** Former X Factor winner Sam Bailey and Loose Women panellist Jamelia team up with their families in an attempt to win a jackpot of £30,000 for charity. Vernon Kay hosts.
- 9.00 Mr Selfridge.** Nancy begins to feel the weight of her deception over her fling with Harry, Victor and Violette take a romantic trip to the coast, and Mr Grove finds out the truth from Miss Mardle.
- 10.00 ITV News and Weather; Weather.**
- 10.15 Bear Grylls: Mission Survive.** Tensions reach boiling point as the celebrities face their toughest challenge yet, navigating down a powerful river, building shelters, catching food and enduring a tropical storm. (R)
- 11.15 Premiership Rugby Union.** Highlights from the 17th round of fixtures, including Bath v Sale Sharks at the Recreation Ground, Exeter Chiefs v London Welsh at Sandy Park and Wasps v Saracens at Ricoh Arena.
- 12.05 The Store.** Home shopping.
- 2.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA.** (R)
- 3.10 ITV Nightscreen.**
- 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R)

Channel 4

- 6.20 How I Met Your Mother.** Marshall tells Ted anecdotes about his colleague Jenkins.
- 6.45 How I Met Your Mother.** Barney sleeps with seven women on consecutive nights.
- 7.10 How I Met Your Mother.** Lily and Marshall set Ted up on a blind date.
- 7.35 Everybody Loves Raymond.** Robert and Amy get back together. (R)
- 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond.** Debra and Ray reminisce. (R)
- 8.30 Frasier.** The Crane brothers encounter their high-school tormentors. (R)
- 9.00 Frasier.** Roz produces Bulldog's show. (R)
- 9.30 Sunday Brunch.** With Mary Portas, Danny Dyer, Matthew Lewis and Peace.
- 12.30 Amazing Spaces Shed of the Year.** George Clarke presents the Summerhouse/Cabin and Workshop categories. (R)
- 1.30 The Big Bang Theory.** The friends compete in a scavenger hunt. (R)
- 2.00 The Big Bang Theory.** Amy spoils one of Sheldon's favourite films by pointing out a plot hole. (R)
- 2.30 The Big Bang Theory.** Sheldon re-evaluates the time he spends with Amy. (R)
- 2.55 FILM: Bride Wars (2009).** Comedy, starring Kate Hudson and Anne Hathaway.
- 4.40 Location, Location, Location.** Property hunting in Birmingham. (R)
- 5.40 Channel 4 News.**
- 6.05 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away.** Jasmine Harman and Jonnie Irwin meet a man who wants to buy a place in the south-west of France, and his partner, who is nervous of taking the plunge and would prefer Devon.
- 7.00 Crufts 2015: Best in Show.** The final day concludes with the most prestigious prize of the competition, the Best in Show. Clare Balding reports live from the NEC as the winner is announced. Last in the series.
- 9.00 Indian Summers.** The Viceroy arrives for the first of his summer visits, while Ralph discovers the only piece of evidence that linked Chandru Mohan to the Congress Party has gone missing.
- 10.00 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown.** Jimmy Carr hosts this comedy take on the quiz, with team captains Sean Lock and Jon Richardson joined by Jo Brand and Claudia Winkleman. Bill Bailey is in Dictionary Corner. (R)
- 11.05 FILM: The Twilight Saga: New Moon (2009).** Vampire Edward leaves his human girlfriend Bella for her own safety, driving her into the arms of a werewolf. Romantic fantasy sequel, starring Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson.
- 1.25 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA.** (R)
- 2.20 Come Dine with Me.** (R)
- 2.50 Come Dine with Me.** (R)
- 3.15 Come Dine with Me.** (R)
- 3.45 Come Dine with Me.** (R)
- 4.10 Come Dine with Me.** (R)
- 4.40 River Cottage Veg Heroes.** (R)
- 5.05 Location, Location, Location.** (R)

Channel 5

- 6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig 6.05 Bananas in Pyjamas 6.20 Angelina Ballerina 6.30 Pip Ahoy! 6.45 The Mr Men Show 6.55 Chloe's Closet 7.05 Olly the Little White Van 7.10 Make Way for Noddy 7.25 Roary the Racing Car 7.35 Paw Patrol 7.50 Little Princess 8.00 Wanda and the Alien 8.10 Zack and Quack 8.25 Toby's Travelling Circus 8.35 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 8.45 Jelly Jamm 9.05 LazyTown 9.30 Dora and Friends**
- 10.00 SpongeBob SquarePants.** Double bill. SpongeBob becomes rich.
- 10.35 The Dog Rescues.** Sara Hughes visits the home of a malnourished dog. (R)
- 11.00 The Hotel Inspector.** Improving the fortunes of Glangrwyney Court in Powys. (R)
- 12.00 The Hotel Inspector.** A British couple struggle to run a Swiss guest house. (R)
- 12.55 The Hotel Inspector.** Alex Polizzi tackles a three-star establishment in Plymouth. (R)
- 1.55 FILM: The Reef (2006).** Premiere. Animated adventure, with the voice of Freddie Prinze Jr.
- 3.25 FILM: Open Season 2 (2008).** Animated comedy sequel, with the voice of Joel McHale.
- 4.55 FILM: Mulan (1998).** A girl poses as a man so she can take her ailing father's place in the army. Disney animated adventure based on a Chinese folk tale, with the voices of Ming-Na and Eddie Murphy. Edited for flashing images.
- 6.35 5 News Weekend.**
- 6.40 FILM: Hitch (2005).** A professional relationship guru finds his expertise counts for nothing when he ends up falling in love himself. Romantic comedy, starring Will Smith, Eva Mendes and Kevin James. Edited for violence and language.
- 9.00 FILM: 21 Jump Street (2012).** Two youthful-looking cops are sent undercover as high-school students to bring down a drugs ring. Comedy inspired by the 1980s TV series, starring Jonah Hill and Channing Tatum. Edited for language.
- 11.15 FILM: Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story (2004).** The struggling owner of a run-down gym tries to save his business by forming a team for the US dodgeball championships. Sporting comedy, starring Ben Stiller and Vince Vaughn.
- 1.05 SuperCasino.** Live interactive gaming.
- 3.10 The Gadget Show.** Jason Bradbury and Amy Williams compete to design the best gadget. (R)
- 4.00 House Doctor.** Revamping a detached house in Sandhurst, Berkshire. (R)
- 4.25 Make It Big.** Simon and Jamie get verbal warnings. (R)
- 4.50 Make It Big.** The team decides on the auction's theme. (R)
- 5.15 Angels of Jarm.** (R)
- 5.20 Angels of Jarm.** Animation about helpful angels. (R)
- 5.30 Angels of Jarm.** Otto forgets to feed the class guinea pigs. (R)
- 5.40 Roary the Racing Car.** (R)
- 5.50 Roary the Racing Car.** (R)



CONTACT THE CHRONICLE ON 01691 668094

Cinema listings

THE BOY NEXT DOOR (15)



Bad neighbours – 5/10

Jennifer Lopez plays English teacher Claire Peterson, who shares a night of passion with strapping Noah Sandborn (Ryan Guzman) who has moved in next door. When Claire informs him that their romp was a booze-fuelled mistake, he responds by papering her classroom with explicit images. The Boy Next Door harks back to a bygone era of jeopardy thrillers.

BACKSTREET BOYS: SHOW 'EM



Boys now men – 5/10

In 2012, the original Backstreet Boys line-up reunited to announce a 20th anniversary relaunch and a new album. Documentary filmmaker Stephen Kijak was granted exclusive access to the band during this emotional period. His film is falls somewhere between anodyne pop promo and a revealing expose.

CAKE (15)



Half baked – 6/10

Claire Bennett (Jennifer Aniston) survived the car crash that shattered her body. The embittered protagonist has been so deeply scarred – physically and emotionally – that she is toxic to everyone. When Nina Collins (Anna Kendrick), a fellow member of a support group, commits suicide, Claire gate-crashes the grief of Nina's husband.

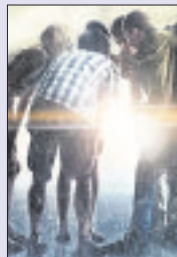
BLACKHAT(15)



Computer conspiracy – 7/10

An elusive mastermind causes an explosion at a Hong Kong nuclear plant and tampers with soy prices on Chicago's Mercantile Trade Exchange. Chinese military officer Captain Chen Dawai and his sister Lien join forces with the FBI and a jailed computer whizz to unmask the culprit. The worldwide trail of clues that could lead them into the sights of an assassin.

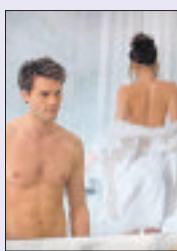
PROJECT ALMANAC (12A)



Time unravelling – 7/10

Dean Israelite's found footage sci-fi thriller ponders the repercussions for a group of high school students, who build a time machine and exploit its power to rewrite history with a swipe of a smartphone screen. Project Almanac is reminiscent of Josh Trank's superior 2012 film Chronicle, employing the same first-person perspective and equally slick special effects.

FIFTY SHADES OF GREY (18)



A bit dull – 6/10

English Literature student Anastasia Steele (Dakota Johnson) interviews handsome billionaire Christian Grey (Jamie Dornan) for an article in the university news-paper. Irresistibly drawn to the businessman, Anastasia agrees to a date and Christian spirits her away. As Christian introduces wide-eyed Anastasia to his secret world of domination and submission, he falls for her.

Underwater fun for all at village's show

Report by Pam Kingsley

IT'S an underwater adventure that includes a camp sea horse and an evil shark.

And now the world premiere of a musical based on Charles Kingsley's The Water Babies is being produced by the Tanat Theatre.

The cast and backstage crew will take on an adaptation of the famous tale that includes original music and songs by Jenny Miller and Eddie Matthews and an adaptation of the story by Gaynor Richfield and Sue Broadhurst.

Mrs Richfield said that bearing in mind that most of the show was underwater there were some imaginative sets that challenged the production team.

"There are some talented newcomers in the cast along with some old favourites," she said.

Young Tom, the cruelly treated chimney sweeps apprentice is being played by Willow Myers.

His cruel boss is being played by Brian Dulsan while newcomer Sera Carpenter plays the Welsh lady, the mother of the water babies.

Creatures

Mrs Richfield says: "The adventure involves all sorts of sea creatures including a conceited lobster, a camp sea horse, a posh Salmon and his wife, Smoked Salmon, swordfish, eels, and the Angel fish, together with otters, a dragonfly, a pearl and even Neptune himself, not forgetting the baddie, the evil shark."

"The wardrobe department has had to be very imaginative and creative in dressing all these sea creatures."

"This is a family show which has something to delight young and old alike there being music, drama, adventure, pathos and lots of humour."

Performances of the show are in Llanrhaeadr Public Hall tomorrow (Friday) and on Saturday.

There are 7.30pm shows on both days organisers say.

And they say there will also be a Saturday matinee at 2.30pm.

Tickets costing £6 for adults and £3 for children are obtainable from The Paper Shop, Post Office and Greatorex Stores in Llanrhaeadr and Upstairs Downstairs, Oswestry.

They may also be booked by telephone on (01691) 860497.

A new venture for Tanat Theatre, an amateur dramatic group established in 1982, is that a professional film is to be made of this show and will be available on DVD at an affordable price.



Alisha Griffiths, Sera Carpenter, Richard Chaloner, Ffion Suckley-Jones and Jo Ferguson are taking part in the production of The Water Babies at Llanrhaeadr

Book reviews

HOMELAND: SAUL'S GAME

By Andrew Kaplan
Published by HarperCollins

This is the second Homeland novel by former journalist and war correspondent Andrew Kaplan. A prequel to the award-winning Showtime TV series, Homeland: Saul's Game takes us back to 2009. The show's star Carrie Mathison, a CIA operations officer, is leading a mission to capture or kill al-Qaeda terrorist Abu Nazir. But arriving at the compound where he is supposed to be in hiding, her team finds it empty. Carrie is sure that someone is leaking CIA information to the enemy. To expose



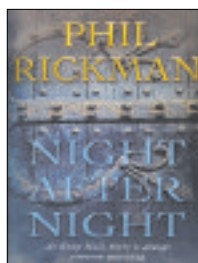
the double agent her boss, Saul Berenson, comes up with an elaborate ruse that will send her on the most dangerous mission of her life. Fans of Homeland will love this book.

By Liz Pinfield-Wells

NIGHT AFTER NIGHT

By Phil Rickman
Published by Corvus

This author is surely a worthy successor to the late James Herbert. Combining the supernatural with crime is what Rickman does best and this, his latest offering, is superb. Leo Defford is the head of a television production company and he definitely doesn't believe in ghosts. He wants to make a reality programme featuring seven well-known personalities and so acquires the isolated Knap Hall in the Cotswolds, recently closed following a tragedy. Once connected to Sudeley Castle, where Katherine Parr was buried in the chapel, the hall has a dark reputation. The claustrophobic environment darkens when some of the celebrities prove to be sensitive to the strange atmosphere.



By Sally Bunn

THE BODY IN THE BICYCLE SHED

By Malcolm Noble
Published by Matador

This is the latest in the "Peggy Pinch Investigates" series and it lives up to the reputation Noble has created for himself. This is highly entertaining reading underscored with pinpoint details of parochial life and with some brilliantly portrayed and amusingly flawed characters. Set in the 1920s this volume sees policeman's wife Peggy investigating her third murder. Several things are awry – a number of valuable books have been stolen, a family of out-of-control children are causing havoc, and the retired



schoolmistress claims that the embroidery circle accounts are incorrect. Finally it becomes clear that Peggy can't solve the murder without revealing an extremely embarrassing secret.

By Sally Bunn

Levels of gun crime dropping in force's area

[illegible]



CONTACT THE CHRONICLE ON 01691 668094

Solving the mystery of a skeleton in the woods



A pre-war picture of Hawkstone golf course

FOR North Shropshire coroner Mr Alfred Thomas Smith, it was the one case that always bugged him.

There will be some who still recall the "Skeleton in the Woods" incident at Hawkstone.

The circumstances pointed to suicide. But could it have been a murder and cover-up?

Mr Smith, who lived in Longlands Lane, Market Drayton, retired in 1966 after 22 years as the North Shropshire coroner.

His appointment had been in 1944 and it must have been in his early years that he dealt with the case which was never to satisfy his inquiring mind.

A skeleton, suspended from a rope from a tree, was found near the site of a German prisoner of war camp. Nearby were letters giving the name of the prisoner.

When the widow was told of the tragedy she sent money back for flowers to be put on the grave in Little Drayton churchyard.

But Mr Smith was not entirely happy. The official prisoner of war records showed that the man was fair haired. He wrote a letter to the widow and she answered a number of questions. She said that her husband had fair hair and that he also had some false teeth. The details of the false teeth were on the official record card.

All in order then? Not at all – suspicion grew after Mr Smith ordered a pathological examination which revealed that the skeleton was of a man with dark hair with a full set of natural teeth.

The coroner started off on another round of inquiries and a local farmer told him that the dead man had been a member of the SS.

The coroner, unable to close the case satisfactorily, had a theory. It could be, he thought, that the SS man, anxious about the treatment he might receive after the war from relatives of his victims, assumed the identity of another prisoner and then hanged him from that tree in the woods.

What appears to be the same incident is recounted in the 2001 book "Hodnet In Wartime" written by the late Gerald Mothershaw of Hodnet.

He says the prison camp housed Italian, and later German, prisoners. It was, he says, on what became Hawkstone golf course in the area, he believed, of the 18th hole.

"The American army ran the camp and supervised the work details. These consisted of prisoners who were brought from the camp to help the local community," he said.

"It could be assisting on a farm or in a shop, making roads, building, or anything else that needed doing. They would be collected in the morning and, after a day's work, would be marshalled together in Hodnet village and returned to camp," he wrote.

"There was one occasion when a prisoner did not return to the village. It was later learned that the missing POW had received a letter from his father, saying that the Russians had advanced into East Germany and his farm would be under Russian occupation. From this, the Americans deduced that the young prisoner had escaped in order to get back to Germany. He was, as far as I am aware, the only prisoner to go missing from Hawkstone camp."

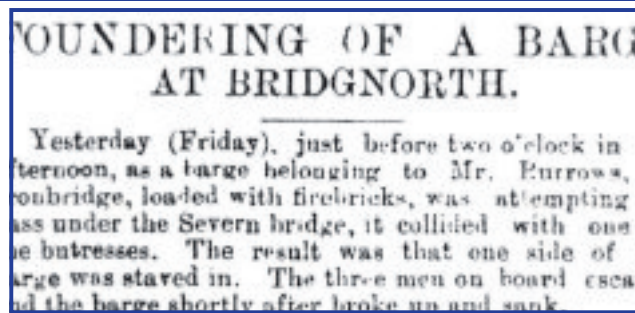
Gerald writes that years later Gamekeeper Jones saw some rags hanging from a tree in Kenstone.

"It was the sad remains of the escaped prisoner, he had hanged himself."

He gives the date as 1947. Can anybody pinpoint the exact date?



Bridgnorth bridge proved an unavoidable obstacle for the historic "Harry"



How the end of the "Harry" was reported in the Bridgnorth Journal in 1895

Tragic sinking of barge marked end of an era

AS the barge "Harry" sank at Bridgnorth 120 years ago, so too disappeared a whole chapter of Shropshire history.

MEMORY LANE

Report by Toby Neal

It was the last known commercial voyage on the River Severn in the county, and the loss of the "Harry" brought down the curtain on centuries of trading on this commercial highway.

It happened shortly before 2pm on January 25, 1895. As the crew tried to pass under Bridgnorth bridge, they banged into one of the buttresses. The impact bashed in one side of the barge, which drifted a little downstream before sinking, the two or three crew aboard (reports on the number vary) getting to the riverbank safely.

How could they have made such a mistake? Contemporary newspaper accounts don't say, but it seems that for one reason or another that they were not paying enough attention, and it is even conceivable – based on something that had happened a short time earlier – that the skipper was drunk.

In any event, control would have been difficult, as there had been heavy rain which must have meant that the river was swollen and fast-flowing, making conditions tricky.

According to the Bridgnorth Journal's report of the accident carried the following day, the vessel was owned by a Mr Burrows (or Burroughs) of Ironbridge, and was carrying a cargo of firebricks.

We have to fast forward to a newspaper account many years later for a possible explanation of what happened. Reminiscing in 1957, one Bridgnorth lad, James Broadbent, said the crew had apparently been so engrossed in watching the aftermath of a deadly landslide which had hit Bridgnorth six days earlier that they did not notice they were rapidly bearing down on the bridge.

As the barge foundered, they escaped.

One of the crew on board that day was Thomas Oswald of Jackfield, who was 63 and captain of the Ironbridge bargemen, so we can suppose that he would probably have been in command – although that doesn't seem to have stopped him from being the first to get off the boat as she

sank. He seems to have been typical of the hard-living and sometimes hard-drinking men of the river. He was known to be partial to a drop and indeed, almost exactly a month earlier, he had taken a tumble while stepping off the "Harry" while "in beer". He fell across a fishing boat. Oswald complained afterwards of having sore ribs and was probably still in pain at the time of the sinking.

He was not to live long. Three days after the loss of the "Harry" he went to Madeley Workhouse, and was destined to die there of bronchitis a few weeks later.

The "Harry's" final voyage is covered in a book by the renowned Shropshire author and historian Dr Barrie Trinder. Called "Barges & Bargemen, A Social History of the Upper Severn Navigation 1660-1990", it was the result of 40 years' research.

It told the story of the vital transport artery, the way it influenced and shaped all places along it, and of the lives of the barge owners and watermen who relied on the river for their livelihoods. Dr Trinder's account included an interesting sequel to the "Harry" story.

The "Harry" was subsequently raised and moved to Jackfield and in January 1896 Colonel Thomas Thorneycroft sought permission to haul it to Shrewsbury.

"Some time later Tommy Rogers, the Ironbridge coracle man, delivered the vessel to the county town," he writes.

What, if anything, happened to the barge then is not recorded. Paper records about the history of the navigation are notoriously sparse, but Dr Trinder, who used to live in Shrewsbury but has moved away from Shropshire, delved into a wide range of documentary, archaeological and pictorial sources to provide a detailed picture.

It was not, of course, the last time the River Severn at Bridgnorth has seen boats, but those which came after were pleasure boats.



We don't have an image of the "Harry", but it may have been similar to this

Quo stars remember rocking into town for a cuppa

HERE'S something that will rock you.

They are one of Britain's famously enduring rock bands, spanning the period from the 1960s to the present day.

But did you know that years ago these Status Quo rockers would pop in to Wellington for a cuppa while on their various travels?

Interviewed in advance of a gig in Shrewsbury some while back, Francis Rossi of Status Quo was asking after his old pals from Fluff, the top Telford pop group of the late 1960s and early 1970s.

The radio presenters had never heard of them. So Fluff's lead singer Chris Wallace, who must have been listening, got in touch with BBC Radio Shropshire to put them in the picture.

It turns out that Fluff were big mates of the Quo, and were their support band at a number of gigs. On the way back from gigs bumbling down the old A5, "Mick" Rossi –



Still rocking after all these years – Status Quo

as he was known in those days when "Francis" apparently sounded not quite right for a pop star – and Rick Parfitt would stop off for coffee in Wellington, where Fluff bass

guitarist Gerry Ward had a flat. Quo, of course, have become legends, grand old men of rock who continue to record and perform – their latest album is called "Acoustic". For their part Fluff were one of those groups which so nearly made the big time, but never quite.

Their line-up in 1969 was: Chris Wallace, then of East Avenue, Donnington; Mick Skinner of Preston Grove, Trench; Gerry Ward, of the Terrace Guest House, Dawley – but who obviously must have had a flat in Wellington at some earlier or later stage; Dave Archer, of Portley Road, Dawley; and Alan Millington, of Dawley. Chris Wallace would leave in 1971 to be replaced by Alan Phillips.

Five years ago an album by the group became available in Britain for the first time nearly 40 years after the record was made.

"Ironbridge" was recorded by Fluff in the early 1970s. But the vinyl LP was never released in Britain, only in France and Japan, where Fluff were renamed "Ironbridge" for the international market.

Do you have any old pictures or tales from the past to share with our readers? Email toby.neal@shropshirestar.co.uk



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JUNE 50, beautiful, funny, warm, young looking blonde WLTm attractive down to earth, sale for no strings fun, laughter and love. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416299

DISCREET lady, 42yrs wants to make you happy, come to me and let me do that for you. ACA. Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box No: 409901

SHELLY 36, tiny shy brunette seeks down to earth, sensitive, older male to snuggle up, share a bottle of wine with and pamper. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416235

ALISON 27 busty, shapely lady seeks fun only with broad minded man. ACA. Tel No: 0905 002 1961 Box No: 416073

KATHERINE 33, pretty blonde would love to get intimate with outgoing, fit guy who is also looking for fun relationship with no strings. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416197

SUSIE, discreet married lady, young 36yrs seeks uncommitted times with man any age or area, all texts answered. Box No: 4459437

FEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416287

FELICITY, professional female, 32yrs, blonde, curvy, fun. Travels a lot and with chap for occasional fun on my travels. Box No: 4459438

PAT 5ft 2ins, medium build, attractive, blonde hair, widow, seeking N/S, sincere gent for friendship and dates out. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416057

LINDY 43yrs young, married with husband away. Seeks discreet gent any age/area for no strings. Box No: 4459439

ALICE 36, tall and slim with long brown hair, outgoing and sporty seeks funny, intelligent guy to share active days and cosy nights. Age/looks not important. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416087

GEM 34yr old pretty brunette with lovely big eyes and nice skin, many interests, WLTm kind tallish male, 30-50yrs for serious relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415571

EILEEN 49, lovely brunette, adventurous and eager to please seeks intelligent male to share the fun side of life together. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416521

GORGEOUS slim brunette lady 5ft 5, seeks attractive man 30-46. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4644639

CHRISTINE 48, shy sensitive brunette looking for lively older male to make her smile again and bring back some passion. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416519

MATURE female seeks male penpal (any age) for literate friendship. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4647759

BEAUTIFUL full figured, down to earth black woman, 37, looking for some serious fun with an experienced, confident, older guy. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416499

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. Tel No: 0905 002 1883 Box No: 413399

SINCERE lady, seeks similar gent, widower referred, 60-67, 5ft 6ins, so slightly taller than N/S, car owner and likes a dog. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416471

ADVENTUROUS sexy lady, 38yrs, married but seeks no strings fun with discreet man, any age. I'm tall, slim and dominant. ACA. Tel No: 0905 002 1937 Box No: 415301

KAREN 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416337

ANNE, mid 40's, cheerful busy curvy affectionate real woman! Seeks gent, any age or looks for nights at mine. Tel No: 0905 002 1953 Box No: 410291

ATTRACTIVE professional widow, 73, WLTm sincere caring gent, widower for friendship, meals in, conversational and to put a smile on our faces. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415951

FIONA, young 32yrs, seeks uncomplicated fun with chap any age or area, texts only please, I'm nervous on the phone. Box No: 4459861

KAREN 50, widow, 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks gent with GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415871

RACHAEL, 36yrs, looking good for my age but need some daytime excitement. All texts answered. Box No: 4507091

GWEN middle aged, 65-75, 5ft 2ins, likes theatre, country music, holidays, seeks N/S male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415785

ASIA very attractive slim single black 32yr female looking for fun times with god time guy with GSOH and a real passion for life and falling in love. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415837

SARAH 31yrs looking for casual 1-2-1 no strings fun with broadminded bored male. Status unimportant, discretion and mutual respect essential. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415821

JENNI, sensual lady, 23yrs seeks mature experienced man for no strings, daytime fun. Box No: 4459440

DIANE 37, sensual, tactile and loving seeks tall male for interesting conversations and cosy intimate nights together. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416085

SALLY, 36yrs, married but husband works away seeks discreet gent any age for fun only. Box No: 4492484

BRIDGET 48, voluptuous, seductive and very saucy, seeks male for lots of TLC and to make very happy in return. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416083

SAMANTHA, sensual, sensual business women, 38yrs, travels a lot and seeks fun on the road. I'm married so please be discreet. Box No: 4459589

ATTRACTIVE tall, dark, professional gent, GSOH, likes sport, socialising, good company, seeking female with GSOH for laughs, conversation and maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415969

JASMINE, 22yrs, seeks older gent for daytime meetings as she works a nightshift most days. Box No: 4495860

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KAREN 50, widow, blonde hair, GSOH, 5ft 5ins, slim, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415767

SYLVIA attractive blonde size 12 45yr old female looking for genuine companionship, someone to spend quality times with, enjoy music and cosy times together. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415543

SUSAN 64, lively, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411329

LINDA uncomplicated female who loves the simple things in life, looking for N/S male with GSOH for nights in/out, no games, users or time wasters please. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415535

PATRICIA widow 67, likes simple pleasures in life, seeks gent, N/S for friendship/companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415685

YOUNG looking female, likes rock music, concerts, theatre, seeks Rock male with similar interests for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415249

MANDY very attractive, slim single mum 36yrs, employed, OHAC, looking to share some quality times with similar genuine kind hearted social male/dad. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415409

DIANE attractive singleton seeks male to have some fun with, meals out, cinema, dancing and just see were things lead from there. Age/race unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415373

SHELIA Asian 20yr old female, very pretty, feminine with long hair, enjoys nights in or out, seeking mature white male 55plus for discreet fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415181

KATY 26 slim beautiful discreet black eyed blonde looking for mature gent for some uncomplicated fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414209

MARGARET 39, attractive active female likes animals, reading, meals in/out, seeking considerate partner for good laughs companionship, shared interests and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414727

HOME alone far too often, attractive bubbly fun good time girl 32yrs seeking male 30-50yrs for broadminded daytime fun. Let's rid the boredom! Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415523

SUE attractive, independent, confident female, sporty, petite, loves the Arts, good books, looking for romantic, sensitive nice guy for nice times together. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415501

KAREN medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415429

AMANDA 5ft 4ins slim fit attractive, enjoys the outdoors, nice wine, theatre etc. seeking romantic considerate soul mate to broaden my horizons. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415391

SAM attractive single mum who really enjoys life and likes to be happy WLTm genuine single male/dad for mutual companionship dates in/out and tic. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415381

KAREN medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415429

ANGIE 38yrs slim blonde, ex model with lovely long legs with shapely figure, fit, toned, sporty, confident but warm, WLTm similar perspective, sensitive individual for ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414723

BECKY stunning big blue eyed 38yr old honest, caring and fun person looking for nice times with similar outgoing fun guy, status/age unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414391

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere, N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. West Midlands. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414773

NICOLA 32, blue eyes, petite, pretty brunette, shy at first, trustworthy, caring, varied hobbies, seeks male/singledad up to 40yrs for tic possible ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414707

TARA 22 tall slim but curvy with legs that go all the way up to heaven, WLTm very appreciative confident male for adult fun. Contact me anytime. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414701

KAREN petite 34yr old attractive blonde, likes pubs, clubs, meals out, gym, looking for honest caring guy who can make me laugh. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414373

JANE 55ins blue eyed attractive curvy mature student with happy disposition, enjoys meals or drinks in/out, keeping fit, walking, seeking genuine fun male with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414229

ARE you Mr Wonderful? Lesley attractive slim auburn haired fit lady who loves life and fully intends to live it to the full, seeking similar caring, patient man. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414213

ANNABELLE 29 slim tanned beautiful sophisticated sensual brunette, loves the high life, Champagne lunches, weekends away, seeks very own sugar daddy for sweet nothings. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414191

SARAH 38yr old bored blonde seeking single guys up to some good times, chat and discreet meets. Looking forward to hearing from you. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414177

EMS 32yrs petite young looking, pretty, likes swimming, walking, talking etc, seeking honest male who loves cuddles/kisses and bikes for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413853

NATALIE 22yrs attractive brunette nurse, very slim, athletic figure, many likes, few dislikes, WLTm male up to 38yrs to stay at home and have some fun with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413839

MAZ 36 petite curvy big blue eyes, loves music, beach walks, cosy nights with good conversation and nice wine, seeks similar likeminded male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413571

HELEN feisty redhead with many interests including beach walks and quiet nights in, looking for male with GSOH and a passion for travel. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413869

ANN slim attractive widowed but not past being loved lady, loves travel, country good conversation, WLTm kind genuine male, 35-65 for ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413453

JANET tall beautiful brunette, slim 12, separated, enjoys life, no hang ups, wanting quality time, friendship and possible romance with similar guy. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413415

ANITA seeking nice man in the West Midlands, 50-70 for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413765

SONYA slim attractive vibrant lady with GSOH and natural mature, fit/active. WLTm N/S male up to 60yrs for romantic genuine respectful relationship, loving. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413441

EMMA petite slim blue eyed blonde 22yrs, likes cinema, dancing/music, just chillin, seeking easygoing male for fun and good times but nothing serious. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413207

EUROPEAN beauty romantic, caring, aware, looking for loving male to enjoy warm loving relationship with, call me to find out more. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413013

GOOD looking professional lady, 56, enjoys the arts, country walks, meals out, seeks compatible, genuine, professional gent to enjoy the good things in life. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415007

ANGIE 38yrs slim blonde, ex model with lovely long legs with shapely figure, fit, toned, sporty, confident but warm, WLTm similar perspective, sensitive individual for ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414723

BECKY stunning big blue eyed 38yr old honest, caring and fun person looking for nice times with similar outgoing fun guy, status/age unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414391

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere, N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. West Midlands. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414773

NICOLA 32, blue eyes, petite, pretty brunette, shy at first, trustworthy, caring, varied hobbies, seeks male/singledad up to 40yrs for tic possible ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414707

TARA 22 tall slim but curvy with legs that go all the way up to heaven, WLTm very appreciative confident male for adult fun. Contact me anytime. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414701

KAREN petite 34yr old attractive blonde, likes pubs, clubs, meals out, gym, looking for honest caring guy who can make me laugh. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414373

JANE 55ins blue eyed attractive curvy mature student with happy disposition, enjoys meals or drinks in/out, keeping fit, walking, seeking genuine fun male with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414229

ARE you Mr Wonderful? Lesley attractive slim auburn haired fit lady who loves life and fully intends to live it to the full, seeking similar caring, patient man. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414213

ANNABELLE 29 slim tanned beautiful sophisticated sensual brunette, loves the high life, Champagne lunches, weekends away, seeks very own sugar daddy for sweet nothings. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414191

SARAH 38yr old bored blonde seeking single guys up to some good times, chat and discreet meets. Looking forward to hearing from you. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414177

JAN slim curvy professional warm, affectionate, looking to fill full time vacancy can similar male who loves cuddles/kisses and bikes for romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412167

ATTRACTIVE slim brunette, 47, N/S, seeks tall, slim male for a cut above the average relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412725

KAREN pretty blonde, short in stature, big personality, keeps fit, loves dogs, seeking honest, caring male who can make me laugh. Nothing too serious just fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412377

JEAN petite female who enjoys golf, days out, cosy evenings in, holidays, WLTm older male in his 60's with a good personality and big heart. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412359

JULIE really fun loving slim pretty female 38 looking for nice guy to go out with, get to know and hopefully enjoy a relationship with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411517

GWENDOLINE honest, trustworthy, seeks caring gent who enjoys cinema, theatre, holidays and nights out for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412293

DIANE voluptuous curvy and all woman, loves dancing, walking, cosy nights in, WLTm nice man for friendship, hopefully leading to something more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412321

SARA bored blonde looking for single gents for fun, chats and meals, looking forward to hearing from you, don't be shy. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412055

EMMA petite young looking 31yrs old attractive single brunette, loves walking, talking, music, seeks honest romantic 30-40yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413005

KAREN 34 blue/green eyed size 12 attractive brunette who loves pubs, cosy nights in, kids, special honest genuine guy/dad for pos ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413005

ROSA 27 sexy senorita seeking older handsome prince charming to whisk me off my feet, enjoy fun times, improve my English and fall in love with. Age/race unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412927

RITA attractive blonde with a very kind heart seeks special man to share my life with. Please get in touch if like me you are fed up with always being the single friend. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412987

JAN 5ft5ins slim pretty lady in great shape, open-minded, laidback, GSOH, OHAC, many interests, WLTm someone for cuddling up, with and to share good and bad times. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412931

ANN slim attractive N/S lady who is easy to get along with, looking for romantic interesting man for new adventures together, hopefully ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412921

JULIE loving, caring, honest, seeks real time to share conversation and have a great time for friendship/relationship, who knows? Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412777

SALLY stunning lady looking for dinner dates, partying and generally having a good time with generous man looking for his mojo! No strings, go on call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412599

DEBS petite attractive auburn haired, good listener, romantic, enjoys socialising, cosy nights in with Mr Right, seeking similar caring N/S single dad. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412387

MALE seeking fun bubbly female, 21-30. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415473

PHIL 57, OHAC, discreet, seeks no strings fun with younger female. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414991

STEVEN 64, WLTm princess to see if the frog kisses really works, caring, considerate, N/S preferred. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415441

JAMES, 45yrs, solvent caring gent, recently divorced, seeks genuine lady to wine and dine. Single mums welcome. Box No: 4459441

34YR old slim, dark haired, creative, adventurous, likes music, cycling and photography, seeks likeminded female to share fun and happiness with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 352753

PAUL 56, works part time, seeking nice lady, 55-65 with GSOH, honest, genuine and understanding. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416017

WIDOWER 70's, lonely, educated, well travelled, reliable, tactile, seeks fun, N/S lady for friendship and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416481

BLUE eyed male, black hair, 6ft 4ins, likes football, nights out, farming, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416341

ROBERT 59, N/S, fit, slim, seeks attractive slim female for discreet no strings friendship and fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413655

MALE 49, 6ft, seeks lady for discreet fun times. Must account. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413819

BLACK guy 68, feels 45, looks 40, seeks female, 58-71, GSOH, genuine, caring for fun times and LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413375

TALL Indian gent, 53, seeks sensual lady for friendship, maybe interesting, chat, discreet days in and nights out. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413315

JOHN 70, tall, slim, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413183

GENT widower, late 60's, looks younger, GSOH, likes music, good food, country pursuits, seeks female, 50-60, for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413173

TONY young looking 50's male, 5ft 8ins, many interests, easy going, seeks slim rock chick or similar for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413275

6FT 1ins slim, dark hair, likes walking, animals, seeking medium build female, 60-80 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500

Local Specialists

TIPS OF THE WEEK

Established for over 10 years, Browns TV Aerials is a Telford based family run business that has developed an excellent reputation for delivering a range of services. These include TV aerial installation repair and upgrading, Freeview and FreeSat installation and connectivity, satellite installation and repair, multi-point installation, large screen TV installation, Digital Radio and telephone extensions.

With a focus on completing any job, they look to provide the same high levels of workmanship and customer service, delivered by a team that are not only highly skilled but experienced.

Browns TV Aerials can supply and install a range of Analogue TV aerials, Digital TV aerials capable of receiving Freeview and DAB Radio aerials. They also service and maintain existing aerial systems alongside providing aerial repairs. Free estimates are available on all new TV aerial installations.

FreeSat can be supplied in 3 packages including Standard Definition, High Definition or High Definition with recording. With only a small dish and the relevant FreeSat box required, the service can be delivered throughout your home.

Browns TV Aerials are also experts in phone line extensions. Whether you need to start running your line from the main box or tap into an existing jack, they can offer expert advice alongside the necessary work.

All work is started from an initial consultation, with a project manager assigned for the entire project. Work is then commenced with a focus on minimum disruption, aiming to work comfortably with builders or other ongoing construction projects. Testing is performed during and at the end of each project, with the workplace left tidy.

With their base in Telford, Browns TV Aerials look to provide a friendly, personal approach in their work, by fully understanding your needs and developing a suitable solution. To find out more about their business, why not check their website. Alternatively, you can visit their Facebook or call: Telford - 01952 415235



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An in-depth knowledge of the window and building industry is crucial.

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Please apply in writing by sending a CV and covering letter to: info@premierwindowsoswestry.co.uk



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The successful applicants will ideally have experience of maintenance of playing fields and general gardening skills.

These posts are for 20 hours per week.

If you have the above skills please visit the school website (www.ellesmere.com) for an application pack. Completed applications are to be submitted by 9.00am Monday 16th March 2015 and sent to the Personnel Secretary, Ellesmere College, Ellesmere, Shropshire SY12 9AB. Tel: 01691 622321 or email harriet.leonard@ellesmere.com.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its students and expects its staff to share this commitment. Applicants must be prepared to undergo Child Protection Screening, including checks with past employers and DBS. References will be sought and verified at the short-listing stage as part of our safeguarding children procedures.

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We are looking for individuals who possess the following competencies:

- Achieving personal work goals and objectives
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Role & Responsibilities

The key responsibilities of this role are as follows:

- Customer Satisfaction (CSI)
- Maximising Opportunities
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Please apply with covering letter saying why you should be offered this opportunity and your cv to recruitment@arthurscars.co.uk
Closing date for applications:- 15th March 2015



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Aston will build only 100 GT3s

One of the sure-fire stars of the Geneva Motor Show this month will be the Aston Martin Vantage GT3, making its debut at the show.

The road-going GT3 takes its inspiration from the Vantage racers that compete in the GT3 class of sports car racing, and features extreme aerodynamic aids front

and rear to produce substantial downforce, increasing cornering speeds.

Many of the exterior panels on the Vantage GT3 are now carbonfibre, including the front wings, bonnet, doors and even the option of a carbonfibre roof and polycarbonate rear and side windows reduced the overall weight by up to 100kg.

Under the bonnet there is an uprat-

ed version of the mighty 6.0-litre V12 engine which Aston Martin claims will deliver 600PS (592bhp), enough to propel it to 185mph and from 0-62mph in just 3.7 seconds.

The bad news is that Aston Martin will produced just 100 examples worldwide, but due to local regulations it will not be sold in North America or Asia - leaving the 100 examples to be fought over in Europe.

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07 (57) SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 1.6 VTT+ 3-Dr, Red	£8,750
07 (57) KIA SORENTO 2.5 CRDI XS, Silver	£9,850
07 (07) SUZUKI JIMMY J1X+ Black/Grey	£5,950
07 (07) LANDROVER FREELANDER 2 TD4 GS, Santorini Black	£11,250
06 (59) LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2.0 TD4 FREESTYLE 3-Dr	£5,650

Automotives

12(61) VAUXHALL AGILA 1.2 SE Ottoman Blue	£7,450
11 (61) VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SE AUTOMATIC, 11,000 Miles	£6,850
11 (61) KIA PICANTO 2 1.25 AUTOMATIC, Blaze Red, 6,000 miles	£7,850

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Service History, Sat Nav, Bluetooth, Stunning! **£16,499**



2005 55 SSANGYONG REXTON 2.7
Diesel, Manual, 7 Seater, 86,000
miles, 4x4 **£3,999**



2013 63 VAUXHALL CORSA 5-dr,
1.3 CDTi EXCLUSIVE In White, 20
Road Tax, 26,000 miles **£6,999**



2012 62 LAND ROVER RANGE
ROVER EVOQUE 2.2D PURE Manual,
In White, leather, 36,000 miles,
1 owner, FSH **£25,999**



2011 61BMW 320d M-SPORT
Automatic, Metallic Black,
Full Leather, 50,000 miles, FSH
£12,999



2011 61 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 2.0 GTI
3-door, Red, One Owner, 36,000 miles,
Alloy Wheels, FSH **£15,999**



2010 60 HYUNDAI 130 PREMIUM
1.6 CRDi Estate Manual, Metallic Blue,
33,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH **£8,499**



2012 12 LANDROVER FREELANDER 2.2 TD4 SX
5-door, 4WD, White with Alcantara/Napoli Leather,
One Owner, 26,000 miles, FSH, Bluetooth **£19,499**



2009 59 JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.2
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Leather, Sat Nav, FSH **£10,999**

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3 TDV6 GS Automatic, Metallic Grey,
52,000 miles, FSH **£16,999**



2013 13 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.6 TDI
"S" 5-door, Red, 24,000 miles, One
Owner, FSH, £ZERO ROAD TAX **£11,999**



2011 61 AUDI A3 2.0 TDI Sportback
Black Edition Manual, White, Half Leather
Bose, 30,000 miles, 1 Owner **£16,499**



2008 08 FORD FOCUS ST 500
3-dr, Manual, Only 19,000 miles, FSH,
Red Leather **£10,999**



2006 56 FORD FIESTA 2.0 ST
3-dr, Black Metallic, 64,000 miles, FSH
£4,499



2011 61 CITROEN DS3 D-Style+
3-dr, 110PS Red with White roof,
21,000 miles, £30 road tax **£9,999**



2009 09 FORD FUSION 1.6 TDCi
STYLE 5-dr, Bright Blue Metallic,
45,000 miles, £30 a year Road Tax
£3,999



2008 08 BMW 116i SE 5-door,
Manual, Metallic Silver, 58,000 miles,
FSH **£7,499**

2007 07	AUDI A3 1.6 SPORTBACK, 5 Door, Manual, Bright Red, 76,000 Miles,	£5,999
2011 61	AUDI A3 2.0 TDI Sportback Black Edition Manual. White, Half Leather Bose, 30,000 miles, 1 Owner	£16,499
2009 59	AUDI A3 CABRIOLET 2.0 TDI SPORT Manual, White, 35,000 miles, FSH.....	£12,499
2007 57	AUDI TT 2.0 TFSi. In Bright Red with Black Leather, 6 Speed Manual, Upgraded 19inch Alloy Wheels, 62,000 miles, FSH	SOLD
2011 61	BMW 320d M-SPORT Automatic, Metallic Black, Full Leather, 50,000 miles, FSH	£12,999
2008 08	BMW 116i SE 5-door, Manual, Metallic Silver, 58,000 miles, FSH	£7,499
2011 11	CHEVROLET LACETTI ESTATE 1.8, Automatic, 1 Owner	£4,999
2007 57	CITROEN C4 1.6 HDi Hatchback Metallic Blue, 71,000 miles.....	£3,499
2004 54	CITROEN C2 GT 1.6 3-door. Metallic Silver, 75,000 miles	£2,999
2010 60	CITROEN C3 1.6 HDi EXCLUSIVE. 5-door. Blue Metallic, privacy glass, 23k, FSH, £20 road tax	£7,999
2011 61	CITROEN DS3 D-Style+ 3-dr. 110PS Red with White roof. 21,000 miles, £30 road tax	£9,999
2009 09	FIAT BRAVO 1.4 5-door, Dynamique, Manual, 66,000 miles	£4,299
2010 60	FIAT 500 1.2 SPORT Manual, Bright Red, 24,000 miles, FSH.....	£6,599
2009 59	FIAT PUNTO EVO GP 3-dr, In White.....	SOLD
2009 09	FORD FOCUS RS 3-door. Bright Green, One Owner, 40,000 miles, Full Ford Service History, Stunning Car	£19,499
2008 08	FORD FOCUS 1.8 ZETEC Metallic Blue, Manual, 37,000 miles, FSH.....	£5,499
2010 10	FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCi ZETEC 5-dr, Manual, Metallic Black, 33,000 miles, £30 a year Road Tax.....	£6,499
2008 08	FORD FOCUS ST 500 3-dr, Manual, Only 19,000 miles, FSH, Red Leather	SOLD
2011 11	FORD FIESTA ZETEC 1.6 TDCi 5 Door, Bright Blue, 21,000 miles, £20 a Year Road Tax	£8,499
2010 60	FORD FIESTA 1.4 TDCi 3-door, Bright Red, 40,000 miles, Cheap Tax, FSH, 1 Owner.....	£6,999
2008 08	FORD FIESTA 1.2 ZETEC 3-door. Metallic Red, Manual, 63,000 miles.....	£3,999
2006 56	FORD FIESTA 2.0 ST 3-dr. Black Metallic, 64,000 miles, FSH	£4,499
2006 55	FORD FOCUS C-MAX ZTEC 1.8 TDCi. Blue Metallic, Alloy Wheels, Air Con.....	SOLD
2009 59	FORD KA 1.3 ZETEC 3-door. Metallic Black, 52,000 miles.....	£4,499
2005 05	FORD STREET KA 1.6 LUXURY Metallic Silver, Leather Interior, Electric Windows, 71,000 miles	SOLD
2009 09	FORD FUSION 1.6 TDCi STYLE 5-dr, Bright Blue Metallic, 45,000 miles, £30 a year Road Tax	£3,999
2009 59	HONDA ACCORD 2.2 CDTi ES GT Estate Automatic. 51,000 miles, Metallic Grey, FSH.....	SOLD
2010 60	HYUNDAI 130 PREMIUM 1.6 CRDi Estate Manual, Metallic Blue, 33,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH.....	£8,499
2008 58	HYUNDAI GETZ 5-door Manual. Metallic Blue, 52,000 miles	£3,499
2009 59	JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.2 Diesel, Sport, Premium, Auto, only 27,000 miles, Metallic Grey, Black Leather, Sat Nav, FSH	£10,999
2009 59	JAGUAR XF 3.0d LUXURY Automatic, 1 Owner, Only 12,000 miles, Metallic Black, Cream Leather, Sat Nav, FSH.....	SOLD
2008 58	JAGUAR XF PREMIUM LUXURY 2.7 DIESEL AUTO 42,000 miles, Champagne Gold Metallic, FSH	£13,999
2008 08	LANDROVER DISCOVERY 3 TDV6 GS AUTOMATIC. Metallic Grey, 52,000 miles, FSH	£16,999
2009 09	LANDROVER DISCOVERY 3 TDV6 GS AUTOMATIC. 7 Seater, 64,000 miles, Metallic Grey, FSH	SOLD
2007 07	LANDROVER RANGE ROVER SPORT 2.7 V6 DIESEL Metallic Black, Cream Leather, 59,000 miles, 22" Alloy Wheels, FSH	£15,999
2012 62	LANDROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.2D PURE MANUAL, In White, leather, 36,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH.....	£25,999
2011 11	LANDROVER FREELANDER 2 DIESEL Manual, Metallic Black, Chrome Pack, Side Bars, Privacy Glass, 51,000 miles, FSH	£13,999
2012 12	LANDROVER FREELANDER 2.2 TD4 SX 5-door, 4WD, White with Alcantara/Napoli Leather, One Owner, 26,000 miles, FSH, Bluetooth	£19,499
2004 04	LANDROVER FREELANDER TD4 5-dr, Manual, Metallic Grey, 96,000 miles, 4x4, FSH.....	£3,999
2007 07	MAZDA MX5 1.8 Convertible. In Copper Red (Burgundy) with Black Hood, only 26,000 miles, Alloy Wheels, Electric Windows and Mirrors.....	£6,499
2005 55	MITSUBISHI SHOGUN LWB ELEGANCE 3.2 Diesel, Auto, 7 Seater, Metallic Silver, 105,000 miles, Leather, Sat Nav	SOLD
2009 09	MITSUBISHI L200 WARRIOR Double Cab, Automatic, Metallic Grey, Leather, 54,000 miles with a back on NO VAT	SOLD
2011 61	NISSAN QASQUAI +2 N-Tec 7 Seater, Diesel, Manual. In White, 1 Owner, 41,000 miles, FSH.....	£13,499
2012 12	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 HDi 5-dr, Red, 11,000 miles, FSH.....	£7,299
2008 58	PEUGEOT 308S 1.6 HDi SW ESTATE 110 PS Silver Metallic, Air Conditioning, Roof Rails	£5,499
2004 04	PORSCHE 911 CARRERA 2 TIPTRONIC Metallic Silver, Black Leather, Only 41,000 miles, FSH	£19,999
2011 61	RENAULT CLIO 1.5 DCi ESTATE Tom Tom, Manual, Metallic Red, 40,000 miles, 1 Owner	£6,999
2007 57	RENAULT KANGOO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE WHEEL CHAIR ACCESS VAN 24,000 miles, electric winch, Metallic Blue	£3,499
2011 61	RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCi DYNAMIQUE TOM TOM 5-door, Metallic Silver, Sat Nav, Air Con, Tinted Glass, 49,000 miles	£6,999
2009 59	RENAULT TWINGO 1.2 FREEWAY 3-door, Red, 2 Owners, Only 28,600 miles, Service History.....	£3,999
2011 61	SEAT ALHAMBRA 2.0 TDI SE 140bhp 7 Seater, Manual, Metallic Blue, 1 Owner, Full Seat Service History, Sat Nav, Bluetooth, Stunning!	£16,499
2005 55	SEAT ALTEA 1.6 5-door. Manual, Metallic Red, 51,000 miles	£3,999
2012 12	SEAT ALTEA 1.6TDi SE 5-dr Manual. Grey Metallic, privacy glass, one owner, alloy wheels, 18,000 miles, £30 road tax.....	£8,999
2014 14	SEAT IBIZA TOCA 5-dr, Manual 1.4, Bright Red, Sat Nav, Only 3,000 miles	£7,999
2010 10	SEAT IBIZA 1.6 SPORT DSG 3-door, Red, 62,000 miles	£5,999
2005 55	SSANGYONG REXTON 2.7 Diesel, Manual, 7 Seater, 86,000 miles, 4x4	£3,999
2008 58	SUZUKI SWIFT 1.3 GL 5-dr. Bright Red, 51,000 miles	£3,999
2013 63	VAUXHALL CORSA 5-dr, 1.3 CDTi EXCLUSIVE In White, 20 Road Tax, 26,000 miles	£6,999
2006 56	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 CLUB 5 Door, Red, Manual, 76,000 Miles,	£3,499
2009 59	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 DESIGN 5-door. Metallic Silver, 63,000 miles, FSH.....	£5,499
2009 09	VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.8 EXCLUSIVE 5-dr, hatchback, only 44,000 miles, Metallic Blue, FSH	SOLD
2013 13	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.6 TDI 'S' 5-door, Red, 24,000 miles, One Owner, FSH, £ZERO ROAD TAX	£11,999
2011 61	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 2.0 GTi 3-door, Red, One Owner, 36,000 miles, Alloy Wheels, FSH	£15,999
2010 10	VOLKSWAGEN SCIROCCO GT 2.0 TFSi. Blue Metallic, 47,000 miles, Alloy Wheels, 6 Speed Manual, FSH	£12,999
2005 55	VW BEETLE 1.6 LUNA Manual, Metallic Silver, 70,000 miles, FSH	£3,999

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Jane's hat-trick of awards

Commercial feature

Wrexham has a rising national star in Jane Hargreaves, brand manager, of our very own Volkswagen centre in Rhosrob-in.

In just the last three months Jane has won three national awards: Used Car Dealer Principal of the Year, Volkswagen One Business Awards, second in the UK out of 200 centres and most recently the AM Award, the motor industry's 'Oscars', for best dealer principal of the year.

We caught up with Jane to find out how she's achieved such extraordinary success.

We often think of the motor trade as a man's world, what attracted you to it?

To be fair it was never really my intention to work in motors; I trained as an accountant and began my career in an accountancy practice.

I wanted to get out and about so I moved on to the Potteries as a management accountant, which I followed with a couple of group accountant roles.

My career path changed totally when I joined Crewe SEAT, in 2006, as dealership accountant.

There was something about the business that grabbed me, I think it was partly the motor trade itself and possibly a lot to do with being part of a family owned and run business, where I was actively encouraged to 'go for it'.

Being a woman really didn't come into it, just whether I was able to do the job.

I told the Smyth family, who own and run the Swansway Group, that I really wanted the opportunity to step up to the leadership role and they promised to keep me in mind.

I'd developed a genuine passion and then challenged myself to become a brand manager by the time I was 40; clearly I've made it with years to spare!

When did you move to the Wrexham centre?

I started here in 2010, again as dealership accountant. A number of things happened which meant that in 2012 the Smyth family said: 'Here's your chance'.

When the moment came I seized it with both hands and I've never looked back. I see my team as a family and lead by example.

Everything we do and everything we achieve is done by collaborating.

I took over in mid-2012 and that year the centre lost £250,000 but by 2014 we'd turned it round into a profit of £150,000, something that I am so proud of, because I know how much effort and sheer determination from the whole team it took to reverse our fortunes.

What do you think makes you an award-winning leader?

That's such an embarrassing question. I don't see myself in that way, I really couldn't have won any of these awards without my excellent team; to me these awards are for the whole team at Wrexham Volkswagen.

I'm not a shouter or a finger wagger, and I do care, passionately about my team. I want to help them all fulfil their potential. It



.....
'The way I motivate myself is to set a goal, achieve that goal, drive on to a new goal and smash that one too'
.....

probably helps that I'm a good listener and a natural team player.

What would your advice be to girls setting out looking for a career?

Don't worry that just because you don't know exactly what you want 'to be' that somehow you'll end up in a 'dead-end' job. My role now is something I'd never even dreamed of even ten years ago.

The way I motivate myself is to set a

goal, achieve that goal, drive on to a new goal and smash that one too. Keep moving forward, keep enjoying what you're doing and never, say, never.

My ultimate goal here is to build a team which will be strong enough to move forward without me; so, if a new opportunity is offered to me, I can be confident that Wrexham Volkswagen would keep moving forward in the right way.

Now, that would be a real achievement; my job would be done.

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AIR CON, CD, UPTO 65 MPG

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ZETEC 140 5 DOOR,
ALLOYS, CD, AIR CON, P/
STEERING, E/WINDOWS,
CR/CONTROL, PARKING
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CONDITION



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AIR CON, POWER STEERING,
ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
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AIR CON,
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ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
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6 SPEED DIESEL, AUTO,
ALLOYS, CD PLAYER,
AIR CON, P/STEERING,
E/WINDOWS, LOW TAX,
GREAT MPG, PARKING
SENSORS, IMMACULATE
CONDITION

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BLUE, 3 DOOR, ALLOYS, CD
PLAYER, AIR CON, POWER
STEERING, ELECTRIC
WINDOWS, 36000 MILES,
LOW INSURANCE, LOW
TAX, IMMACULATE
CONDITION



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VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SXI
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CD PLAYER, AIR CON,
POWER STEERING,
ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
LOW INSURANCE,
IMMACULATE CONDITION.



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AUTO, 7 SEATER, DIESEL,
AIR CON, P/STEERING, E/
WINDOWS, CR/CONTROL,
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SEATS, 57000 MILES,
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64000 MILES, 5 DOOR,
ALLOYS, CD PLAYER, AIR
CON, POWER STEERING,
ELECTRIC WINDOWS



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3 DOOR, 6 SPEED, CD
PLAYER, AIR CON, POWER
STEERING, ELECTRIC
WINDOWS



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MIDLANDS PREMIER

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lichfield	18	13	3	2	68	26
Nott Un	18	12	4	2	67	27
Bourneville	18	11	4	3	79	37
Kilnsey	18	11	4	3	79	37
Rugby & EW	18	1	8	7	61	28
Harborne	18	8	2	8	56	43
West Bridgford	18	7	3	8	43	39
North Stafford	18	7	8	5	51	24
Norton	18	4	5	9	48	17
Barton	18	5	2	11	48	24
Hampden-in-A.	18	4	1	13	35	19
S Colfield	18	2	1	15	29	9

MIDLANDS 1

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Stourport	18	15	2	1	90	26
Stones	18	13	1	4	70	40
Burton	18	11	3	4	70	36
Coventry & NW	18	11	6	1	61	28
Worcester	18	9	4	5	59	40
Telford & Wrekin	18	9	4	5	59	40
Brighdnorth	18	6	4	8	49	22
Edgbaston	18	5	4	9	37	22
Old Hallians	18	5	4	9	39	46
Old Shillhams	18	4	3	11	38	22
North Nottingham	18	4	3	11	38	22
Chesterfield	18	2	2	13	16	9

MIDLANDS 2

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Loughborough	18	12	2	1	109	33
Sikh Un [North]	18	12	2	1	108	35
Stratford	18	12	0	6	58	36
Warwick	18	10	4	4	61	34
Warwick Un	18	10	5	4	58	34
Shrewsbury	18	8	5	5	69	49
Melton	18	9	1	8	51	28
Leicester	18	9	2	5	50	24
North Notts	18	1	10	7	30	10
Wolverhampton	18	4	1	13	38	14
Wellingborough	18	2	0	16	20	11
Kings H Pk	18	2	0	16	20	11

WEST MIDLANDS PREMIER

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Finchfield	18	13	3	2	82	25
Southern B	18	13	2	3	81	34
North Notts	18	11	4	3	79	37
Ald & Walsall	18	11	4	3	79	37
Sikh Un [Cov]	18	10	4	6	63	21
Telford	18	8	3	7	52	27
Walsall	18	8	3	7	52	27
Walsley	18	8	3	7	52	27
Walsley	18	8	3	7	52	27
Walsley	18	8	3	7	52	27
Walsley	18	8	3	7	52	27
Walsley	18	8	3	7	52	27

WEST MIDLANDS 1

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Old Wulfrunians	18	14	0	2	70	24
Old Wulfrunians	18	14	0	2	70	24
Old Wulfrunians	18	14	0	2	70	24
Old Wulfrunians	18	14	0	2	70	24
Old Wulfrunians	18	14	0	2	70	24
Old Wulfrunians	18	14	0	2	70	24
Old Wulfrunians	18	14	0	2	70	24
Old Wulfrunians	18	14	0	2	70	24
Old Wulfrunians	18	14	0	2	70	24
Old Wulfrunians	18	14	0	2	70	24

Midlands Ladies League

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
N'pton Saints	18	15	0	3	27	21
Leamington	18	15	0	3	27	21
North Notts	18	7	4	3	36	25
Shrewsbury	18	7	3	5	26	17
Shrewsbury	18	7	3	5	26	17
Shrewsbury	18	7	3	5	26	17
Shrewsbury	18	7	3	5	26	17
Shrewsbury	18	7	3	5	26	17
Shrewsbury	18	7	3	5	26	17
Shrewsbury	18	7	3	5	26	17

Midland Feeder West

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Stones	15	10	2	3	38	32
Warwick	15	9	2	4	25	18
Telford & Wrekin	15	9	0	4	24	27
Lichfield	15	9	0	4	24	27
Shrewsbury	15	7	3	5	29	21
Sutton Coldfield	15	6	3	6	33	21
Old Wulfrunians	15	6	3	6	33	21
Stratford	15	6	2	6	28	20
Bourneville	15	4	1	8	7	14
Bloxwich	15	0	2	13	12	2

Cheshire League

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sale	19	18	0	1	109	54
Wrex Glyndwr	19	17	1	1	85	19
South Cheshire	19	14	1	3	82	19
Warrington	19	13	2	4	81	29
Cheshire II	18	10	2	6	56	48
Cheshire Edge II	17	7	1	9	43	22
North Hall	16	6	1	9	43	19
Warrington	19	13	2	4	81	29
Oxton	19	3	13	24	58	12
Knowlton IV	18	3	2	13	21	9
Boudon	18	2	16	19	69	6
Sale II	18	2	16	19	69	6

English Rugby Clubs

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hull Ionians	24	21	0	3	346	104
Amphill	24	21	0	3	339	104
Cingsthorpe	24	21	0	3	339	104
Gaidy	24	21	0	3	339	104
Sedgley Park	24	21	0	3	339	104
Harrogate	24	21	0	3	339	104
Otley	24	21	0	3	339	104
Huddersfield	24	21	0	3	339	104
Leeds	24	21	0	3	339	104
Leeds	24	21	0	3	339	104

National League 2 North

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hull Ionians	24	21	0	3	346	104
Amphill	24	21	0	3	339	104
Cingsthorpe	24	21	0	3	339	104
Gaidy	24	21	0	3	339	104
Sedgley Park	24	21	0	3	339	104
Harrogate	24	21	0	3	339	104
Otley	24	21	0	3	339	104
Huddersfield	24	21	0	3	339	104
Leeds	24	21	0	3	339	104
Leeds	24	21	0	3	339	104

National League 2 Midlands

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sth Leicesters	21	20	1	7	146	316
Hinckley	21	16	0	5	551	311
North Notts	21	16	0	5	551	311
Nuneaton	21	16	0	5	551	311
Bromsgrove	21	13	0	8	601	411
Old Hallians	21	13	0	8	601	411
South Notts	21	13	0	8	601	411
South Notts	21	13	0	8	601	411
South Notts	21	13	0	8	601	411
South Notts	21	13	0	8	601	411

Wrekin Short Mat Bowling League

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newport CG B	11	7	1	3	47	15
Newport CG C	12	7	0	5	45	14
Madley Old B	11	6	5	0	42	14
Ketley Bk C	11	6	5	0	42	14
Telford B	10	5	5	0	40	13
Shrewsbury Vic B	11	3	8	0	38	6
St Georges A	10	3	0	7	0	6

Midlands 1 West

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newport, Salop	21	20	0	1	947	223
Hereford	21	16	0	5	526	34
Worcesters	21	11	1	5	586	293
Crews & N'wich	21	12	0	9	520	53
Stoke on Trent	21	12	0	9	530	45
Walsall	21	11	1	9	501	51
Kenilworth	21	11	1	9	539	43
Stour Un	21	11	1	9	451	42
Whitchurch	21	10	1	11	421	51
Leek	20	8	0	12	485	57
Silhillians	21	4	2	15	401	62
B'well/Balsall	21	5	2	14	549	23
Barkers Butts	20	3	0	17	295	62

Midlands 2 West North

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brighdnorth	17	17	0	0	767	81
Old Salteians	18	15	0	3	505	23
Kidderminster	18	9	1	8	509	48
Moseley Oak	17	11	0	6	337	33
S'bridge Lions	18	10	0	8	402	35
Wotton	18	10	0	8	392	42
Camp Hill	18	9	0	9	420	38
Shrewsbury	18	8	1	9	323	32
Veseyans	18	7	1	10	336	48
Ludlow	18	7	1	10	365	50
Stafford	18	3	1	14	239	29
Tamworth	18	1	1	16	190	58

Midlands 3 West North

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Handsworth	17	14	2	1	827	33
Harborne	17	14	2	1	827	33
Eccleshall	18	13	0	5	605	26
N'castle, Staffs	18	12	0	6	735	26
Burnwood	18	12	1	5	563	37
Edwardsians	18	12	0	6	586	20
Willenhall	18	9	1	8	398	31
Clee Hill	18	6	1	11	256	43
Wednesbury	17	5	1	12	367	40
Uxbridge	18	4	1	13	291	24
Uxbridge	18	4	1	13	291	24
Aston OE	18	0	1	18	81	12

Midlands 4 West North

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Clebury M	15	10	1	4	740	76
Barrow Un	15	11	4	1	451	24
Cannock	15	11	1	3	370	13
Rugley	16	9	0	7	298	27
Telford Hornets	16	8	0	8	257	21
Shropshire Un	16	8	0	8	257	21
Bromyard	15	7	1	9	335	37
Yardley & Dist	17	7	1	9	335	37
Mkt Drayton	16	4	1	11	196	38
Greyhound	16	4	1	11	196	38
Tenbury	16	2	1	14	115	9

Midlands 5 West North

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Alridge	14	11	1	2	557	18
Church S'ton	13	11	0	2	432	16
Stourport	12	8	0	4	312	17
Essington	13	6	0	7	387	14
St Leonards	12	5	1	6	313	22
Chaseley	12	5	1	6	313	22
Whittington	12	2	1	7	177	5
B'ham B'rians	12	0	12	6	83	78

Midlands West Reserve

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lutonians II	13	13	0	0	620	91
Old Patessians II	13	9	0	4	507	27
Bromsgrove II	13	4	0	9	435	20
Nuneaton II	14	6	0	8	633	39
Old Hallians II	12	6	0	6	319	30
Sutton Coldfield II	13	1	0	12	199	33
Dudley Kings II	14	1	0	12	148	59
Worcesters II	14	1	0	12	151	59

Midlands 1 West

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newport, Salop II	11	10	0	1	401	119

Ellesmere hoping to avoid any Malvern ills

ELLESMERE RANGERS boss Dan Stevens has urged his team to make their longest trip of the season in the West Midlands League premier division worthwhile.

Rangers, who conceded a stoppage time equaliser to draw 1-1 at home to Black Country Rangers last weekend, travel to Worcester-shire to take on Malvern Town on Saturday.

“It’s our longest trip of the season so we don’t want to go all that way to get beat,” said Stevens, who admits to also having an eye on next Wednesday night’s County Cup semi-final against Shawbury United at Market Drayton Town FC.

Stevens insisted there was an overriding sense of disappointment at being pegged back so late by a Black Country equaliser last weekend.

Stevens felt his side were never truly at their best but they looked set to pick up maximum points thanks to a well taken half volley from Ryan Jones midway through the first half.

Both Jones and top scorer Scott Ryan had the chances to add to that slender lead before Black Country, having offered little as an attacking force, pulled level from a rare attack a minute into stoppage time.

“It was quite a lacklustre performance, one of our poorest at home this season,” said Stevens. “We didn’t really deserve to take more than a point although it was disappointing to concede so late.

“We didn’t have any fluency about us and played at a slow tempo, but it’s another point to add to our total.”

Golf returns from the local clubs

HAWKSTONE PARK
Men’s February Medal Division 1: K Stuart 82-10-72; J Benson 87-14-73. Division 2: P Moorcroft 91-21-70; P Hollins 99-20-79.
Ladies February Stableford: J Wales 37 off 17.9; M Moore 27 off 19.7; J Weaver 24 off 20.6.
Seniors Stableford Division 1: D Wright 42pts off 11.4; D Barnett 40pts off 11.8; B English 37pts off 9.3. Division 2: P Moorcroft 39pts off 21.2; D Lloyd 37pts off 22.1; D Clark 36pts off 19.2.

HENLELE PARK
Texas Scramble: D S Jones, P Roberts & J Parry 60.4pts; J McKay, S Bryers & R Hutton 60.8pts; J Roberts, K Lloyd-Jones & C Roberts 62.3pts.
Seniors Yellow Ball Competition: A Jones, A Hardy & P Cartwright 106pts; J B Evans, A Wright & J Searles 105pts; A Patterson, M Cunningham & R Collins 101pts.

MILE END
Team Multiplier Comp Winners: D Roberts, K Jones, R Burke 109pts. Runners Up: R Davies, F Crouch, T Martin 102pts.
Sunday Social Winners: A Ord & K Evans 25pts. Runners Up: A Eke & B Sharpe 25pts.
Team Yellow Comp Winners: A Hoyles, G Thurston, G Hanson 126pts. Runners Up: P O’Conner, J Barry, R Roberts 124pts.

OSWESTRY
Sunday Morning Draw For Partners - Four Ball Better Ball Medal (15 Holes): K Probert & S Owen 50; A Allen & G Goff 51; M Knapper & D Potts 52 (c/b); S Roberts & J Harris 52.

THE SHROPSHIRE
Ladies February Stableford: S Richards 34pts; J Heritage 30pts; A Belshaw 29pts.

Albatross at Welshpool for Williams

BLUSTERY conditions did not deter 67 entries from Saturday’s 12 hole Welshpool Golf Club Winter League event and some surprising scores were returned.

Taking the honours was Mark Williams (28) with 33 points helped by a net albatross on the par four seventh.

In second place was Lionel Weaver (15) with 28 closely followed by Sammy Marck (16), 27.

Even stronger winds on Sunday reduced the usual Rabbits and Tiggers entry but 15 hardy players took part in a 12 hole better ball.

Winners on the day were Richard Templeton (T) and Peter Dixon (R) on a countback, beating Dai Eis (T) and Sena Davies (R) with 29 points each. Phil Constable (T) and Dean Bowen (R) finished third on 28

Nicoll on the up after new PB

ADELE Nicoll insists she has rediscovered her love for shot putt after throwing a personal best at the British Indoor Championships.

The 18-year-old was among the youngest athletes in the field at Sheffield’s EIS – but didn’t let that deter her as she finished fifth.

A throw of 14.87m was good enough for an indoor personal best but not enough to displace the top three with Eden Francis taking gold with 16.5m.

But former Oswestry Olympian Nicoll insists she was delighted with the result and believes the only way is up after an impressive performance.

“I’m pleased with how I did out there. I got a PB and it was really unexpected because for the last two months I’ve actually been rotating,” said Nicoll.

“We decided that we needed to play it more safe and I wasn’t 100 per cent sure that my rotation would allow me to get six throws and I needed them.

“We changed back to my old technique just for this competition and I think I’m going to stick with it because I just got a PB.

“I split from my coach half-way through last season, I didn’t do my World Juniors which was also a target so hopefully I’ll have a much better year this year and get a GB vest.

“I’m just happier than I was last season and that’s good because it’s all about being happy and enjoying what you do.”

Nicoll, who studies at Walford and North Shropshire College, narrowly missed out on a Commonwealth Games spot in 2014 but thinks that she is in the perfect position this campaign to make a real impact at major competitions.

“I’m really happy because I had a hard year last year and I just threw 14.87m and the qualification for European junior championships is 15m so 13cm is nothing so I hope I can do that in my next competition,” she added.

“There was a lot of expectations for me last year, I was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Games for Team Wales but unfortunately I won the trials but I didn’t get the qualification standard.”

COBRA get priceless win – and look safe

RUGBY UNION by John Bridgwater

COBRA look virtually assured of retaining their status in rugby’s Swalec League division one (north) for next season after securing a priceless 24-7 home win over Llandudno.

The Meifod men also collected a bonus point to further boost their cause and are now 18 points above the two basement places, and 13 points clear of third bottom Dolgellau.

Building on recent victories, they took another step forward with their attacking effort being rewarded with four tries, and they can make Saturday’s tricky trip to Bethesda in good heart as they look to push up towards mid-table.

Playing against a wind in the first half, COBRA defended well and limited the Seasiders’ scoring opportunities with good tackling and a disciplined approach.

And they stunned their visitors with the only score of the half on the half hour to take a valuable lead into the half time interval.

After soaking up pressure, they launched a break down the blindside through prop Bryn Edwards who found Harry Jukes on the wing who sped 40 yards down the flank. When tackled, his inside pass was clutched by flanker Lloyd Bright who then fed hooker Steve Isaac to cross the line, with Llew Williams kicking the extras for a 7-0 interval lead.

A second try came on the hour mark when scrum half Alwyn Williams launched a sniping run from a shortened line-out. He fed No8 Jack Jukes who stormed 30 yards past the covering defence to force his way over despite being tackled on the line. The conversion was missed.

Llandudno then enjoyed their best spell of the game and a move of several phases saw them go over in the corner for a try which was expertly converted from wide out to bring them right back into the game at 12-7.

But COBRA grabbed their third try from their very next attack to quell any thoughts of a fight-back, the ball being spun to Harry Jukes in the centre and he kicked ahead for Sion Wyn Williams (returning after a hand injury) to win the race to touch the ball down. Llew Williams added the conversion for a healthy 19-7 advantage.

The hosts never looked likely to relinquish their grip after bringing on their big front row forwards to bolster the scrum, and they gained a bonus point with a fourth try.

From a five metre scrum, the hosts were illegally held up which saw a Llandudno player



Prop Andy Evans is held up in COBRA’s vital win against Llandudno. Picture: Trevor Jones.

yellow carded, and from the next set piece, Jack Jukes powered towards the line and, despite being held up, Alwyn Williams collected the loose ball to dive over in the corner.

WELSHPOOL suffered a frustrating outing after going down 30-5 at Rhos in division three (north) – despite scoring the first try of the match.

The Maesydre side were always in the game but lack of discipline, and losing the ball in key arrears, undermined their challenge.

Playing with the wind at their backs in the first half, the game had started well enough for Pool with hooker Jamie Richards touching down following a forward drive.

They had plenty of possession, but were unable to capitalise as ball was lost, and Rhos clawed their way

back to lead 13-5 at the break.

But the visitors were still in the hunt as they turned around for the second half despite Rhos scoring a penalty to extend their margin soon after the re-start.

Picking and driving well, Pool enjoyed a good phase of the game and thought they had scored when driving over from a five metre scrum, only for the try to be ruled out.

Another forward push was also foiled by the referee’s whistle when they looked poised to score, and frustration was to boil over with Pool having two players yellow carded to effectively ended their challenge.

Rhos ran in two more tries to seal a 30-5 win, the result disappointing for the visitors who had enough of the game to get some reward only to pay the price for a lack of discipline.

Eagles back in groove with big win

AFTER a poor start to the year, OSWESTRY got themselves back on track with a 46-0 beating of Trencham to point to brighter times ahead in rugby’s South Lincs and Cheshire 20.

The Eagles had won just once in 2015 to undermine their promotion credentials, but tasted victory again in comfortable fashion against their struggling visitors.

The first try of eight came from a superb run after the home side’s new signing Jonny Lee burst through the Trencham defence allowing scrum half Hamish Fuller to give quick ball to the backs who duly passed down the line through Gaz Hughes and Jack Fox who unselfishly off loaded to Tyler Morris to score a well worked touchdown.

Further tries from Gaz Hughes, who went over twice, along with Chris Hesketh, Luke Roberts, James Booth, Jack Fox and Jamie Luckett took the game away from their visitors. Hughes also chipped in with three conversions for a personal haul of 16 points.

Oswestry showed excellent communication, and fantastic defence when needed, with superb individual skill from the pack and backs that saw Luke Roberts land the man of the match accolade with an

RUGBY UNION by John Bridgwater

impressive display.

The many supporters that watched this match were treated to a great display of rugby and resoundingly gave their approval at the final whistle – a fine way to mark the club’s VIPs day.

Victory will put the Eagles in good heart for Saturday’s tricky assignment away to promotion chasing Southport.

■ The points also flowed as **OSWESTRY II** trounced Heaton Moor II 71-0 to boost their prospects in the Freshlet North West League division four (south)

With the pitch having dried out following recent rain, the game was full of good running rugby with forwards and backs linking nicely for a much needed win.

A brace of tries for Jake Smith, James Anderson, Nick Howland and Tom Cockayne were the highlights of the game with all players scoring good individual and team tries.

The first touchdown took a while to come, with Oswestry failing to capitalise on good running

rugby and pressure within the oppositions 22.

But after Adam Plummer crossed the line following good attacking play out wide, the flood gates opened.

Straight from the kick off Dan Lawrence gathered the ball and put Cockayne through a hole in the defence who ran 60 metres to score a great try.

Jake Smith, being his usual tough fiery self, controlled his pack well and found himself in a scuffle which helped captain for the day Warren Howell dive over the line.

Plenty of well worked team tries finished off the first half with the score at 46-0.

A few changes in the second half disrupted the lineup which upset the rhythm of Oswestry’s destructive play and with refereeing decisions not going their way, it was set for a scrappy second half.

But Oswestry got back on track with some great charges from Ally Pryce and Ben Jones. With the opposition dropping like flies Oswestry found their way around the outside a few times in the second half to score some more good individual and team tries.

Oswestry look to replicate that performance when they host Linley II on Saturday .

Grice nets awards at Oswestry Tennis Club

MATT Grice served up one of the big wins as Oswestry Tennis Club held their annual awards dinner at the Wynnstey Hotel

The presentation night saw Grice receive the annual trophy for the first time after becoming mens singles champion, with Speth Cumpston, Brett Hollywell, Carol Johnson, Helen Lowe and Emily Lowe all recipients of monthly trophies.

Meanwhile, a six-week coaching course is due to commence on Friday, March 27, levelled at beginners and improvers for adults and children over the age of 14. Currently there are five places available for non-members so anyone who is interested in dusting off their rusty racket or would like to give tennis a try for the first time, places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Doubles

Details of times and cost about this may be found by contacting the organiser helenlowe34@gmail.com

The club’s winter/spring season is now well underway with inter-club ladder competitions for both mixed and men’s doubles which makes for good preparation for the Shropshire Doubles League where the club will be entering two men’s teams and three ladies teams.

The ladies first team participate in the highest echelon of the league with the third team entering for the first time.

The club will also be participating in the LTA initiative Fast4Tennis which is designed to encourage more people to play tennis with events taking place during the summer.

Hockey hope of promotion look doomed after defeat

OSWESTRY’S slim promotion hopes in the West Midlands Hockey League division one were effectively ended when they slumped 4-1 at home to impressive Bloxwich.

The previous week’s 5-1 victory at Newtown kept the Oswestry men in third, and in the hunt, but their chances of catching the two sides above them were dashed after finding themselves well beaten.

They had led through Jack Morgan’s 34th goal of the season, but it went downhill from there as the second placed visitors hit back to lead at the break.

They were level when firing home a rebound after a short corner had been saved by keeper Dave Prince, and went ahead with a shot into the corner.

Oswestry lost their way in a patchy second half display as frustrations boiled over, and a couple of yellow cards left them down to nine players at one stage.

Bloxwich took advantage to score twice more to seal a win to enhance their own promotion prospects, with Os now looking to bounce back in Saturday’s trip to lowly Yardley.

■ Another solid display saw Oswestry Ladies cement third spot in the Cheshire Womens Hockey League division two with a 3-0 home success against Golborne.

The team are away to Alderley Edge Ladies on Saturday.

WELSHPOOL ladies continued their resurgence with a 7-0 hammering of Bangor University to seal survival in the North Wales League division one.

Caroline Jones scored four times, with Sarah Williams, Cerys Bills and Kelly Evans also on the mark, while Grace Johns was named player of the match by the visitors.

St Martins six-shooters keep up the title chase

SECOND placed St Martins produced their best display of the season to keep alive their title quest in the West Midlands League division one with a 6-2 beating of Hereford Lads Club.

Victory leaves Ryan Butcher's side just five points off pacesetters Bromyard who the Saints must visit later in the season in a possible title decider.

There was no sign of the rout ahead as the Hereford side made a promising start at Park Hall, bossing the early possession before taking the lead through dangerman Scott Turner on the half hour.

But this sparked St Martins into life and they were quickly back on terms from the very next attack as Shin Miah fired a terrific free kick into the net from the edge of the box.

They were ahead on 35 minutes when an excellent move saw Shawn Melusi cross for Sam Nash to convert, and it was 3-1 on 40 minutes as Josh Sumner won the ball in midfield before finding Melusi who set up Karl Bailey who produced an excellent chip over the keeper.

Ten minutes into the second half, substitute Guy Guilford added a fourth in a fine style when curling another cracking effort into the net from the right, and another good move was finished off by Jamie Hands for No5.

Bailey got his second on 67 minutes when firing in the loose ball after his initial strike had rebounded off the keeper, while sub Dan Graham headed against the bar from a left wing cross moments later.

The Lads Club bagged a consolation deep in injury time when Danny Moon powered a low free kick into the net, but it did not take the gloss of a fine display from the Saints who now gear up for a crucial home meeting with AFC Ludlow on Saturday.

Llanfair miss out on shot as silverware

LLANFAIR United reserves missed out on their last chance of silverware this season after bowing out of the Montgoershire Robins League Cup with a 3-0 exit at home to Caersws reserves.

The first half proved an even affair with both sides creating very few chances, with Toby Evans going closest to breaking the deadlock when hitting the crossbar from a corner.

However, a crazy 10 minute spell early in the second half led to three Caersws goals, and there was no way back from that despite Llanfair creating several chances.

Meanwhile, **WATERLOO RESERVES** went down 4-2 at Bettws in the JT Hughes Montgomeryshire League division one, their replies coming from Chris Hughes and Ben Jenkins.

MORDA'S second division game at Welshpool reserves was called off the night before with the Maesydre pitch declared unfit.

Results
J Hughes Montgomeryshire League – The Robins (Newtown FC) League Cup: Llanfair Res 0 Caersws Res 3
Honda Division One: Bettws 4 Waterloo Res 2, Llanfyllin 3 Llanfechain 2, Llangedwyn 0 Meifod 2, Treforon 3 Guilsfield Res 4
Mitsubishi Division Two: Berriew Res 2 Newtown Wund 4, Llanyrwst 1 Forden Utd 1, Welshpool Res 2 Kerry Res 3

U19s hit nine

A HAT-TRICK from James Papirnyk put TNS under-19s on course for a 9-0 hammering of Prestatyn Town in the Welsh Premier Development League.

After Harrison Millington had bagged the opener, Lewis Evans and Ryan Kershaw also both scored twice, with Dylan Jones the other contributor.

New Saints close in on title

GOALS in each half from Matty Williams and Adrian Cieslewicz took The New Saints to the brink of retaining the Welsh Premier crown after overcoming Airbus UK 2-0 at Park Hall.

Victory leaves the unbeaten Saints just two points away from making sure of a fourth successive title, and ninth in all, but they had to battle all the way against the Wingmakers who are chasing runners-up spot and their place in the Europa League.

The defending champions made the perfect start when Williams pressured defender Andy Jones into a poor back pass in the third minute, and the forward slid the loose ball past keeper James Coates from the edge of the box.

The lively Cieslewicz had a couple of opportunities to extend the home lead, one effort headed off the line by a diving Mike Pearson while the winger was also denied by Coates with a close range header in another raid.

Williams also blazed wide after tenacious work from Aeron Edwards down the right, but Airbus overcame their poor start to carve enough chances to have returned with some reward.

They went close to levelling on 27 minutes when Jordan Barrow's cross from the right eluded the home defence and Ryan Wade saw his angled shot at the far post blocked by keeper Paul Harrison.

A fine run from Ryan Wignall then opened up the

defence before his low shot was blocked by Harrison, while the visitors continued to press, and went agonisingly close when Wade's header from Tom Field's corner struck the underside of the bar before being cleared off the line by Chris Seargeant with the follow-up effort also hitting the post.

But the Saints sealed the win six minutes from time when Cieslewicz was afforded too much space and steered his low shot past Coates as he broke into the box.

Kai Edwards went close to a third when steering his low shot just past the post from close range, but by then the Welsh Premier leaders had done enough to maintain their unbeaten campaign.

Spot-on Barton puts Guilsfield in final

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

STRIKER Danny Barton was again spot on as Guilsfield booked their place in the final of the Cymru Alliance League Cup with a tense 2-1 victory against Holyhead Hotspur.

After falling behind in the eighth minute to a goal from Mel McGuinness, the Guils hit back with top scorer Barton levelling from the penalty spot right on half time before adding a second penalty after the interval to put his side ahead.

A scrappy and sometimes headed affair saw Guilsfield down to 10 men late on after Gareth Jones was sent off for his second booking, but the villagers held firm to set up a final meeting with Powys rivals Caersws.

Holyhead arrived on the back of a good run of form and were soon ahead when McGuinness evaded two challenges to strike an early lead.

Despite themselves also going well this season, Guilsfield struggled to get into their stride for long stages of the half, but were given a way back into the game in contentious fashion on the stroke of half time.

After being awarded a free kick near the box, the subsequent shot was ruled to have struck an arm of a defender in the wall, and a penalty was given.

Tempo

Barton stepped up to slot home the spot kick despite visiting keeper Jones getting a hand to the ball. Guilsfield played at a better tempo in the second half and, although few chances were created, looked more comfortable.

The decisive moment came on 78 minutes after Adam Jenkins drew a rash challenge in the box, and top scorer Barton stepped up again to fire the resulting penalty kick home.

Guilsfield had to survive a nervy few minutes after Jones' late dismissal for two yellow cards, but held firm to see the tie out.

While the second placed Guils were involved in cup action, leaders Llandudno took advantage with a 4-0 win against Rhayader Town to move 10 points clear at the top of the table, although they have played two more games.

Caernarfon, however, failed to make up ground on the Mid Wales men after drawing 0-0 at Llanidloes Town, managed by ex-Guils boss Mike Barton.

Village green line standing firm



Waterloo Rovers are on the attack, but their free-kick is met by a defensive wall from Llansantffraid Village. Picture: Tony Williams.

DEPLETED Welshpool Town again found it tough going as they conceded five goals for the second week running when slumping 5-0 at Carno in the Spar Mid Wales League division one.

Without eight regulars, Town made the trip with just 11 players and included manager Russell Cadwallader in goal, such were their problems.

And they found themselves well beaten as Carno kept alive their push for runners-up spot with Danny Pierce scoring twice along with Jordan Jones, Ashley Owen and Andy Evans.

It was also a disappointing afternoon for **WATERLOO ROVERS** who lost 3-2 at home to **LLANSANTFFRAID VILLAGE**. Rovers had led 2-0 at the break of a windswept affair with

goals from Neil Pryce and Scott Holly, but let it slip as the Village hit back after the break with the elements in their favour.

In a genuine game of two halves, Llansantffraid suffered a blow before the game with no recognised goalkeeper, so Aled Jones came to the rescue after turning out for the reserves in the last few games.

Rovers had a strong back wind in the first half and they used it to their advantage, but good defending from Glenn Evans and Mattie Davies kept them at bay for the opening 30 minutes before the home side took the lead.

A long range shot at goal was pushed onto the bar by keeper Aled Jones but Pryce was first to react to head home the lose ball. It was difficult for the Village to

clear the ball against the strong wind and the home side capitalised on a wayward pass that was held up by the wind, Holly latching onto the ball before running between the defenders and slotted past Jones in 37th minute. The home side were well worth their two goal cushion at the break, but the Village made the most of the wind and they dominated the proceedings in the second half. They pulled one back in the 52nd minute when Mattie Jones scored from the penalty spot after Nathan Prodder had been brought down in the penalty box.

Within a minute the score was level, the home side failed to clear a cross from Lee Green on the right and Prodder hammered the loose ball into the corner of the net.

High fives from TNS Ladies in cup victory

EMILY Ridge and Megan Hayes both scored twice as The New Saints Ladies booked their ticket for the West Midlands Regional League Cup semi final with a 5-1 victory against Knowle Ladies.

The terrible weather conditions made it tough going for both sides, with the Saints trying to play their normal style of play.

But it was not long before leading scorer Ridge opened the scoring for the Shropshire side when running on to a through ball to fire home.

Knowle then hit back, a free kick bobbed around the Saints box and was tapped home from close range to put the hosts back on terms. However, the visitors quickly stamped their authority on the tie with Haynes adding a second in style when latching onto a ball over the top, holding off two defenders before lifting her shot over the goalkeeper.

Haynes then got her second of the afternoon when collecting a through ball after good play in the Knowle half, before slotting into the net.

Ridge then added her second of the game minutes before half time to give TNS a commanding 4-1 lead at the break.

The second half saw the Saints control the game once again but, with conditions worsening, play was broken up easily and the tempo of the game reduced dramatically.

With 20 minutes to go, a place in the last four was sealed when Sam Berry netted a fifth to keep the Saints on course for silverware.

After the game, manager Joe Thompson said: "Today was a real professional performance, in difficult conditions, from the whole squad.

"They were horrific conditions and apart from the first 15 minutes we completely dominated the entire game."

He added: "To be in a semi final is pleasing and was all we cared about going into the game. Knowle were a dangerous side and played some nice neat football at times, but we were able to snuff out any danger they posed to us.

"Hannah Yates had a particularly good game and deserved the player of the match award."

The New Saints Ladies face Knowle again on Sunday, this time when they make the trip in the West Midlands Womens Premier League (2pm).

Goodman is booked for Shropshire dinner date

FORMER footballer turned Sky Sports commentator Don Goodman will headline a sporting dinner at The Shrewsbury Club next month.

The ex-Wolves, West Bromwich Albion and Sunderland striker will share stories from his successful career on Friday, March 27.

Tickets are selling fast for the dinner to be held on the eve of the final of the Aegon men's tennis tournament, which features professional players from across Europe, at the Sandown Road venue the following day.

Former world ranked tennis player Adam Wharf, recently appointed High Performance Coach at The Shrewsbury Club, will also speak at the event.

"It will be an evening of fine food and entertaining sports stories," said Dave Courteen, managing director of The Shrewsbury Club.

"Both Don and Adam are engaging speakers with a wealth of experience from their sporting careers."

Tickets for next month's dinner which includes a delicious three-course meal plus coffee cost £35.

Tables of 10 are also available for £350 which includes two bottles of wine on the table.

Bookings can be made at reception at The Shrewsbury Club or by phoning (01743) 467755.

Llanfair maintain big lead at the top

HIGH-FLYING Llanfair United remained 10 points clear at the top of the Spar Mid Wales League division one with a 4-0 verdict at rock bottom Aberystwyth University.

The students battled hard with the wind at their backs in the first half, but Llanfair got their noses in front five minutes before the break when a cross from right back Llion Davies found its way into the net after a defensive gaffe.

After the interval, the league leaders were always in charge with the elements in their favour with Andrew Hughes making it 2-0 before a brace from Geraint Jones sealed the win.

"They didn't make it easy for us, but it is another win closer to the title," said boss Rhys Stephens whose side remain well clear of second placed Penrhyncoch.

The Roosters, however, are refusing to give up the chase with their 5-0 win at home to Berriew keeping them just about in sight.

A few days before, Penrhyn won 3-1 at Llansantffraid Village to underline their credentials with an impressive display at Treflan.

Second half substitute Mattie Davies scored twice for the Roosters, after an early strike from Jona-

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

than Evans had put the visitors on course, before the hosts bagged a consolation.

The game was just three minutes old when Evans made the breakthrough when steering home a long free kick from Dylan James.

After an even first half, the Village pushed for an equaliser after the break which played into the hands of the visitors who soaked up the pressure before breaking from defence to quickly counter attack.

They made it 2-0 on the hour as sub Davies quickly made his mark when heading in the loose ball after an Evans shot had been blocked from a break, and the forward increased the margin with just 15 minutes remaining to effectively settle the issue.

The Village refused to give up though and rewarded five minutes from the end when Gary Meredith powerfully headed home a Mattie Jones corner. Despite continuing to push for more goals Penrhyn held out for a deserved victory.

LLANRHAEDR had to settle for a 2-2 draw at

home to Bow Street who opened and closed the scoring to return with a deserved point.

After going behind, Llan levelled when Tom Evans headed in an Iain Edmunds cross, while player boss Marc Griffiths put them in front after more good work from Edmonds.

But they could not hold onto the lead as the visitors pressed to return with a deserved point.

FOUR CROSSES' disappointing run continued after falling to a 3-0 loss at Aberaeron who took the spoils through Rhodri Thomas, Gareth Evans and Charlie Wakely.

BERRIEW slipped deeper into basement danger following their 5-0 beating at Penrhyncoch who continue to look good for second spot.

Mark Gornall grabbed the first direct from a corner before Matthew Mousley, Liam Jaques, Mattie Davies and sub Bobby Kwok also found the net.

Fighting for first division survival, MONTGOMERY picked up a useful point in their 1-1 draw at basement rivals Tywyn Brynrcrug

In division two, DYFFRYN BANW were downed 3-0 at home to Churchstoke, while title rivals Knighton Town and Hay St Mary's shared a 2-2 draw.

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Guils braced for big clash with leaders

GUILSFIELD know there can be no margin for error as they attempt to throw the Cymru Alliance title race wide open in Saturday's showdown with leaders Llandudno.

The second placed villagers trail the Seaside by 10 points with two games in hand, and a home victory is a must this weekend as they look to put themselves back in the hunt.

Being the only to team to win away on Llandudno's 3G pitch this term, the Guils are in buoyant mood, and boss Mike Parry is under no illusion about the importance of the game.

"If we win on Saturday, and then win our two games in hand, then it will be all up for grabs as we would be just one point behind them," he said.

"All we can do is to try and win our remaining seven league games, but we feel if we lose against Llandudno, then it would then be too much for us to pull back."

Spirit

Parry will be hoping his side can maintain their battling spirit which has seen them storm to second in the table, while also reaching the final of the Cymru Alliance Cup with last weekend's 2-1 victory against Holyhead Hotspur.

"We have shown that we are prepared to graft to get results this season, and keep going to the final whistle," he said. "We did not play well against Holyhead, but our experience and guile saw us through."

The Guils now meet Powys rivals Caersws in the final, with the venue and date to be confirmed for late in the season.

Two penalties from top scorer Danny Barton saw Guilsfield through against Holyhead who had taken an eighth minute lead through Mel McGuinness.

For this weekend's action, midfielder Gareth Jones is suspended after being sent off late on in the league cup tie, but Aeron Edwards, Sean Jones and Graeme McGill could come back into contention.

Ellesmere set for a derby cup clash

LOCAL rivals Ellesmere Rangers and Shawbury United are raring to go ahead of next Wednesday night's TJ Vickers Shropshire Premier Cup semi-final clash between the sides.

The West Midlands League premier division clubs will go head to head under the lights at Market Drayton Town's Greenfields ground for the right to earn a place in the Greenhous Meadow final later this season.

It will be a second meeting in quick succession after Rangers recently gained an impressive 4-0 away win in the league at Shawbury's expense.

Dan Stevens, manager of cup holders Ellesmere, knows this is a big game for both clubs.

"We've rotated the squad recently to make sure everyone has game time in case they're required to play in the semi final," said Stevens.

"We've just got to make sure we're prepared as well as we can be."

Team places up for grabs in triathlon

By John Bridgwater

sample the event.

Tim Tansley, Triathlon Committee Member for Oswestry Olympians, explained: "The full event can be a little daunting for those not fully committed to the sport. However, each element in itself is very manageable for someone with a good degree of fitness from another sport or activity."

"This year we'd love to see lots of local clubs whether they be footballers, tennis players, gymnasts or martial artists, entering a relay team."

"The community teams will be competing for

a new trophy for the best non triathlon team in the event.

"To make this happen we have created 30 subsidised places for local teams, so you can come and race for the price of a pint of beer per team member!"

He added: "The toughest part of the event is probably the bike leg which does include a couple of hills. However, from the end of March, the club will be running regular informal orientation rides round the course on a Friday evening to help those who are training for the event. It will be a chance to learn the course and get some training in ahead of race day."

SAINTS TARGET TROPHY TREBLE

THE New Saints boss Craig Harrison believes his side's "inner steel" will keep them on course for a famous treble as they gear up for Saturday's Welsh Cup quarter-final tie at GAP Connah's Quay.

Having already lifted the Word Cup, while also on the brink of the Welsh Premier title, the Saints now turn their thoughts to the third leg of their trophy pursuit this season.

Standing in their way this weekend will be league rivals GAP Connah's Quay who, on home soil, could make it an uncomfortable afternoon for the holders in their defence of the trophy.

But the Saints, unbeaten in 32 games in all competitions, are in no mood to slip up after last Sunday's 2-0 home win over Airbus UK left them requiring just two points to secure a fourth consecutive league crown, and ninth in all.

Harrison is backing his team's winning mentality as he looks to keep the remarkable run going – and is desperate for a repeat of last season's Welsh Cup glory.

"It's a fantastic, traditional trophy. I loved every minute of it last season and would love to win it again," he said.

"First we've got to get past GAP who have had a change of direction during the season with a new coach. They have had some decent results lately, and it will be another challenge for us."

GAP currently have two TNS players on loan, defender Steve Evans and wingman Ryan Fraughan, but neither will face their parent club on Saturday.

The Saints, who have not conceded a goal in seven games, have plenty of options at the other end of the field with front men Jamie Reed, Greg Draper and Alex Darlington not featuring in last Sunday's 2-0 success over Airbus that left the league leaders just two points away from retaining the Welsh Premier crown.

With just one win needed to lift the league crown, TNS's home clash with second placed Bala Town, scheduled for next Friday, has now been moved to Saturday, March 14 with a 5.05pm kick off. The game will be televised live by S4C.

Os and COBRA get win bonus



Try scorer Jake Smith (No 9) with the Oswestry second team forwards who prepare to launch another raid on the Heaton Moor line in their 71-0 win.

COBRA put their revival to the test when they head to Bethesda in rugby's Swalec League division one (north) on Saturday.

After starting the year with four straight defeats, the Meifod side have now reeled off three successive victories to dismiss any thoughts of being dragged into a relegation dogfight.

Last weekend's 24-7 home success over Llandudno should be enough to ensure COBRA retain their first division status, but they will want to maintain the resurgence at Bethesda who have proved tough to beat at home.

WELSHPOOL aim for a welcome win when

they entertain Porthmadog in division three (north) on Saturday, with the visitors one place below their hosts in seventh spot.

The Maesydyre men have suffered a disappointing start to the year, losing four of their five outings which included last week's 30-5 defeat at Rhos.

Boosted by a welcome 46-0 home win over struggling Trentham, OSWESTRY chase more points in the South Lancs and Cheshire Two on Saturday – but face a tricky trip to promotion chasing Southport.

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High-flying Llanfair will stay focused

LLANFAIR United boss Rhys Stephens remains cautious despite his unbeaten side looking firm favourites to lift the Spar Mid Wales League division one crown.

A 4-0 win at basement side Aberystwyth University kept high riding Llanfair 10 points clear of chief rivals Penrhyncoch in second place.

The two sides must meet once again before the end of the season, but it would need a dramatic collapse to deny the current unbeaten league leaders the crown.

"We've got 10 games left, mathematically we still need to win seven, but I think six wins will do it," said Stephens.

"It may be ours to lose, but we've got a lot of difficult games coming up and we've got to keep working hard."

Llanfair hit the road on Saturday when they visit a Machynlleth side battling for league survival, while another side desperately needing points, **BERRIEW**, are at home to **WATERLOO ROVERS**.

Berriew boss Dave Jones, whose side lost 5-0 at Penrhyncoch last weekend, admits the Rhiewsidiers are facing a nervy end to the season as they battle to ensure they do not get dragged into a relegation scrap.

"We need to get some wins on the board quickly so we do not get out of the pack above us," he said.

"It's never nice to lose 5-0, but we were beaten by a very good Penrhyncoch performance, and we have bigger battles ahead."

Meanwhile, **BERRIEW** continue to hover close to basement danger in the Spar Mid Wales League after their midweek 3-2 home loss to Llanfair who took the spoils through goals from Iain Edmunds, Endaf Owens and Barry Morris.

Division one fixtures: Berriew v Waterloo Rovers, Carno v Four Crosses, Llanrhadridd v Llansantffraid Village, Machynlleth v Llanfair Utd, Welshpool v Montgomery Aberaeron v Penrhyncoch.

Nicoll throws way to the British title

WELSHPOOL shot putter Adele Nicoll showed her credentials to lift the British Junior Indoor title at Sheffield.

The 18-year-old former Oswestry Olympian's throw of 14.36m was enough to land her a fifth age group British title, which augurs well for the new season ahead.

Although she did not throw as far as the had hoped, Nicoll – who has recorded 14.87m this year – has high hopes of pulling off a 15m throw to earn qualification for July's European Junior Championships.

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